

SUMMER 2021

RISSUE

ROTTERDAM INTERNATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL MAGAZINE NR. 4

**LOCK
DOWN**

Zemblanity
Serendipity

**HOW TO
STUDY**

**FINDING
BOOKS**

**HALL OF FAME
2021**



ROTTERDAM
INTERNATIONAL
SECONDARY
SCHOOL





**ROTTERDAM
INTERNATIONAL
SECONDARY
SCHOOL**

Message from the Editor: Nabihah Zaheer

It is yet again time for another edition of the RISSUE. Over the past few months, the editorial board has worked hard at creating this edition which celebrates how the RISS community grew and prospered, even through these difficult times. I am proud to say that, from sustainable living to what to do after graduation and even a collaboration with an international school in Spain, this feature perfectly sums up life at RISS for teachers and students alike.

This past school year has been a rollercoaster of different events, with the school reopening last August to warmly welcome its students after an unconventionally lengthy summer break. After almost a year of social distancing, air hugs, and mini-lockdowns, we're now starting to wrap up once again. Although many of us will be back next year, our senior 12th graders will officially be leaving us and moving on to the next phase in their lives – pursuing their dreams in the 'real' world. This edition of the RISSUE also celebrates these graduating students with the hall of fame, student interviews, and some of their favorite IB quotes and memories.

I would love to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has worked hard to make the creation of this magazine possible: the writers, photographers, and supporting teachers who worked tirelessly every single day. A big thank you goes out to the principal, who envisioned and arranged the main idea of this magazine and created this unique opportunity for us.

I would also like to thank the entire school community for their support and input. I hope we can all continue to grow and evolve as we progress through these times as a family, and I am excited to see what the next school year has in store for us.

*Nabihah Zaheer
Student Editor-In-Chief*



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

By Dr. Gilbert-Sáez

“MAI I TE KOPAE KI TE URUPA, TATOU AKO TONU AI”

(“From the cradle to the grave, we are forever learning”) New Zealand Māori whakataukī/proverb

I borrowed the above title from my colleague Ms Ward, Head of Middle Years, when she used it to bid farewell to a Wolfert colleague recently. I think that the appropriateness, inclusivity and diversity of this message is just right to open up our new RISSUE 4.

‘Forever learning’ sums up the events of the last year very well. It has been a year where we have all learnt how to adapt to a life that is very different from the old ways of interacting and socialising, one that has required a sense of awareness and attention that has never been expected before in our living memory.

A global pandemic enables us to realise that we are in a world where life, either microscopic or macroscopic, whether you look through a microscope or a telescope, is in constant action and interaction. As creatures of this planet, our connectivity to one another and to everything on it, can no longer be ignored. The model of human beings proudly on top of a pyramid of lesser creatures needs to finally be consigned to history and we need to take our place in a web where everything is connected to everything else, from the largest animal to the smallest virus.

We have learned that life is precarious and that life is precious and that, to borrow a phrase much loved by politicians, we are all in it together. And this is a good thing to learn.

“Now, more than ever, we need to grasp the idea that the misfortune of others is our own, that ‘No man is an island’ as the poet once said, and that we are only safe when we are all safe.”

From washing our hands to save our life, and the lives of those around us, to collaborating across continents to ensure everyone has fair and equitable access to the latest knowledge, technology and medicines, we have come to genuinely understand that our survival depends on strong democratic collaboration, communication and a sense of compassion.

We have learned that education, and especially scientific understanding, is our way out of the pandemic – not national economics or politics or ideologies. We have even learned how ephemeral and insignificant the concept of ‘a nation’ is when it comes to a virus. Now, more than ever, we need to grasp the idea that the misfortune of others is our own, that ‘No man is an island’ as the poet once said, and that we are only safe when we are all safe.

Through it all, we have learned that it is still important to dream and it is against this backdrop, we have a group of RISS students in Grade 12 and Grade 10 who embody such dreams of better things. These young people have been subjected to a period of two years of constant change, not just within their normal experience of school life, but also in the restrictions to their lifestyle, being away from friends and family and, in some cases, having to endure the loss of dear ones without the privilege of saying goodbye. This is a great deal for anyone to live with, especially ones so young. The childhood and youth that we strive so hard for our students to enjoy here at RISS has been threatened – yet, as I spent time with them in recent weeks as they sat their exams, I have witnessed how they have developed a sense of resilience, responsibility and strength like no other. Despite the challenges behind them and the uncertainties ahead, they keep smiling, they show support for each other, keeping their spirits up, managing their emotions and expectations and refusing to let the events take away what is precious to them – their dreams.

I hope you can all join me in paying respect to our Grade 12 and Grade 10 students and showing our unequivocal support, recognition and pride for them all. We have learned a lot from the pandemic; we have learned more from our young people.

So, to all our Grade 12 and Grade 10 students, I wish you all the very best for the future and the best of luck in everything you wish to achieve as you seek out your dreams.

And remember, “from the cradle to the grave, we are forever learning”.



**ROTTERDAM
INTERNATIONAL
SECONDARY
SCHOOL**



2 - 3
PRINCIPAL'S
MESSAGE



6 - 7
ARTICLE
EXCHANGE



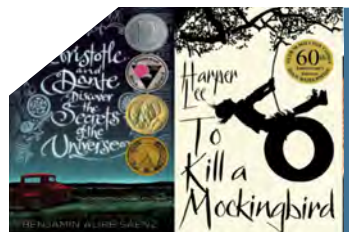
8 - 9
RESPONSIBILITY



10 - 11
RETROSPECTIVE



12 - 13
HOW TO STUDY?



14 - 17
FINDING BOOKS



18 - 19
INTERVIEW



20 - 21
STEPPING INTO
THE FUTURE



22 - 31
HALL OF FAME
2021



32 - 33
MUCH PROMISE



34 - 37
STUDENTS'
QUOTES



38 - 40
TEACHERS'
COMMENTS



COLOPHON

RISSUE

Magazine of Rotterdam International
Secondary School (RISS)
Issue number 4

STUDENT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Nabihah Zaheer

STUDENT CO-EDITORS

Sude Bozcal
Sophie Mertens
Amalia Villacis Miranda
Elektra Katsikis
Quentin Frisch
Kristine Harron
Aarushi Ganguli
Sahira Gruis

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHERS

Annick van Luik
Ceyda Gürsoy

STAFF SUPPORT TEAM

Yvonne Ricketts
Timothy Mottram
Sarah Beecham
Charline Lugtigheid
Gerald Oudman
Rafael Moreno Adelanto

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Dr Gilbert Saez (Principal)
XPat Media
IES Padre Manjón

DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Schat! Grafisch ontwerp
M-Space

PUBLISHER

RISS in collaboration with XPat Media,
The Hague, The Netherlands

PRINTER

VDdrukwerk b.v., Waddinxveen,
The Netherlands

PHOTOGRAPHY

Hannah Anthonysz, Gerald Oudman, Airlab,
Charline Lugtigheid, RISS Community

ON THE COVER

Jagoda Mariusz
Photo by Annick van Luik

COPYRIGHT 2021 RISS

All rights reserved. No part of RISSUE may
be reproduced or used in any form without
permission from the publisher.



MIX
Paper from
responsible sources
FSC® C114687

If there is one thing we can all agree on, it's that Covid-19 has changed our lives. Students and teachers worldwide have had to adapt in completely unexpected ways in order to keep the students' learning process as uninterrupted as possible. Learning about how other people coped with the pandemic during their studies is interesting, because it allows us to gain perspective on our own situation and to learn from other peoples' accomplishments and mistakes. This is just one of the reasons why the article exchange, organised by Mr Moreno, was an excellent idea. Mr Moreno works with the Instituto Padre Manjón in Spain, and organised for our very own school magazine to exchange an article with theirs, about the experiences of two students during the pandemic. The article written by the student of the Instituto Padre Manjón is in our school magazine for RISS, so that we can get a glimpse into life as a student in Spain during the pandemic, just as the article written by a RISS student is in their magazine so that their students can know a little more about what the pandemic was like for an international student in the Netherlands.

The Lockdown: Changes in My Perspective



By Celia Coca Gómez
(from Instituto Padre Manjón)

Cuando, el 13 de marzo de 2020, se anunció que nos iban a confinar “durante dos semanas”, mi reacción fue la misma que la de la mayoría de mis compañeros: lo celebré. Pensé que serían unas pequeñas vacaciones del colegio, del estresante día a día.

Primeramente, seguíamos teniendo colegio, pero ahora era por Internet, lo que al principio parecía bastante guay, ¿no? Podría dormir un poco más de lo normal, y asistir a clase desde la comodidad de mi cama. Esta versión idealizada de las clases online que tenía en mi cabeza se desvaneció el primer día, cuando los profesores empezaron a mandarnos ejercicios por una app de mensajería, casi todos ellos sin siquiera explicar la teoría primero. Aprender sola resultó ser tan dificultoso como poco estimulante (paradójico, lo sé).

Después de algún tiempo ahogándome en mi desmotivación, decidí que necesitaba cambiar mi dinámica de trabajo. Les pedí a algunos de mis profesores una ampliación curricular y me centré en entender la teoría profundamente, en lugar de copiar las respuestas de la tarea del libro. Esta complicada situación me obligó a cambiar mi perspectiva sobre lo que quería obtener de mi educación. Aprendí el valor de la dedicación y la perseverancia, lo que significa sumergirte en la materia en vez de dejarte arrastrar por la corriente, intentando no ahogarte.

El confinamiento también me ha hecho darme cuenta de cómo mi bienestar dependía en gran medida de actividades que no hacía yo sola. Como no podía seguir jugando al baloncesto, fue extremadamente difícil para mí encontrar la motivación para hacer ejercicio en mi casa, sola, sin entrenamientos estructurados ni entrenadora. Empecé a hacer menos ejercicio a causa de esto, así que probé actividades creativas, para proveer variedad para mí misma, ya que las rutinas de ejercicio en casa eran mucho menos divertidas y motivadoras que mis entrenamientos. Además, tuve que adaptarme a nuevas formas de socializar, pues no podía interactuar con gente en el colegio, ni salir con mis amigos, durante el confinamiento.

Al principio, me aislé, pero luego probé las videollamadas y empecé a hablar más con mis amigos por mensajes. Ahora le doy al tiempo que paso con mi familia y amigos la importancia que se merece, porque sé lo mucho que les echo de menos cuando no puedo estar con ellos.

El confinamiento me ha cambiado en algunos aspectos, y aunque han sido unos tiempos difíciles, puedo decir que he aprendido de ellos.

When, on March 13, 2020, it was announced that we would be in lockdown “for two weeks”, my reaction was the same as most of my classmates’: I cheered. In my mind, it would be a little holiday from school, from stressful, everyday life.

To start with, we still had school, but now it was online, which at first seemed quite cool, right? I could sleep in, and I could be in class from the comfort of my bed. This idealised version of online classes I had in my head vanished the first day, when the teachers just started sending us homework through a messaging app, almost all of them without even explaining the theory first. Learning on my own proved to be as difficult as it was unstimulating (paradoxical, I know).

After spending some time drowning in my demotivation, I decided that my work dynamic needed to change. I asked some of my teachers for extra material and focused on deeply understanding the topics, instead of copying the answers for my homework from the book. This difficult situation forced me to change my perspective on what I wanted to get out of school, in a sense. I learned the value of dedication and perseverance, what it means to immerse oneself in a subject instead of being carried away in the current, trying not to drown.

The lockdown has also made me realise how much my well-being depended on activities that I didn't carry out on my own. Since playing basketball wasn't possible anymore, it was extremely hard for me to find the motivation to do sports at home, by myself, without structured training or a coach. I started exercising less because of this, and instead tried more creative activities, to provide variety for myself, since at-home workouts were much less motivating and fun than my training was.

Also, I had to adapt to new ways of socialising, since I couldn't interact with people at school, nor go out with friends, during the lockdown. At first, I kind of sheltered myself, but then I tried video calls and started texting my friends more. Now I don't take my time with my friends and family for granted, because I'm aware of how much I miss them when I can't be with them.

“The lockdown has shaped me in some aspects, and despite the fact that it was a very challenging experience, I learned a lot from it”

Personal Responsibility, Hypocrisy, and COVID-19

It's been over a year since the Covid pandemic hit the Netherlands, and I can assure you that almost everyone is more than fed up with it by now. I mean, when will we get back to our lives? When can we go to parties again? When will school go back to normal? When will we get to go on vacation again? For many people, this year we've lost to Covid has been a year that was supposed to be full of fun and events. Maybe you planned a pre-senior year trip with your friends, or decided this year would be the year you finally let go a little when it comes to academics and that you would focus more on having fun and expressing yourself. Maybe the reverse, you decided to double down on school, but struggled to do that with all the online school we've had to go through. No matter what your plans were for this past year, we all have had to adapt to the unexpected hurdles brought into our lives by Covid.

Vaccinations are rolling out and regulations are easing up. As the weather gets warmer and the school year starts to end, the finish line seems so close. We're on the final stretch, but we're not there quite yet.

I personally don't know a single person who hasn't broken the coronavirus rules. Yes, myself included. Whether you're having your family over for dinner, going out with your friends, or booking private sessions with your barber (before the Covid regulations allowed it), all these seemingly harmless things have had an effect on the situation.

Maybe you're looking back on the past year and thinking, 'Why didn't we just have a hard lockdown at the beginning? Then this would be over'. It's too late for that and blaming 'incompetent' governments is not an excuse for your own bad behaviour. We all know the rules. We all know the consequences of not following the rules. Yet we still all break the rules. Why?

Maybe you have old grandparents, a chronically ill sibling, or a neighbour struggling with obesity. We all have selfish reasons to want us and the people we know to stay healthy. Maybe your going out with your friends didn't cause anyone to get sick. But what if someone who was unknowingly sick saw your outing and was encouraged to do the same? You don't have to be physically spreading the virus yourself to make the overall situation worse. You're still being irresponsible and endangering others. You aren't the exception to the rules, and for real change to happen we need to start holding ourselves to the same standard we hold others to. We need to care about our communities and care about the people we don't know and will never meet, not just think about ourselves and the people in our immediate circles.



This pandemic isn't a game of survival of the fittest. Now is the time to be responsible and to follow the guidelines. Prioritise your health if you have the luxury to, and make smart decisions. The end is near, and with a little more patience this chapter of our lives will be over.

How to Live a Sustainable Life

Firstly, let's start off with what a 'sustainable lifestyle' even means. I'm sure we have all come across all those videos or blogs of people promoting a zero-waste lifestyle and passing it off as 'the only way to be sustainable' – but that is just not the case. A sustainable lifestyle is "a lifestyle that attempts to reduce an individual's or society's use of the Earth's natural resources and personal resources". The idea that, in order to be sustainable, you have to have a zero-waste lifestyle often can make people feel overwhelmed or discouraged from making sustainable swaps, as they feel that they have to drastically change their lifestyle – when in reality there is no 'one way' to be sustainable. Living a sustainable lifestyle is not a one-size-fits-all mentality, as everyone has a different way of living and different goals they can achieve.

Now, what are easy things you can do to be more sustainable in your day-to-day life? Of course we all know about the typical things to reduce your carbon footprint – like using less plastic, cutting down on water use, using public transport, not using plastic bags, having a reusable water bottle, eating less meat and fish, turning off the heating, etc. – but in reality there are many sustainable swaps you can make that aren't as commonly talked about. One of the big ways in which we all can be more sustainable is in the fashion industry. It is not often talked about, but the fashion industry is actually one of the largest polluters in the world. In order to be more sustainable in your fashion choices there are many small changes you can make. These include buying from eco-friendly brands (avoiding fast and cheap fashion) and looking for natural fibres like cotton over polyester. In addition to that, the most important way to be sustainable in your fashion choice is to try and not buy more clothes than you need, while alternatives like thrifting and buying vintage clothes are also great ways to try to reduce your fashion consumption. Another way to have a more sustainable lifestyle has to do with your food. Not only the standard approach of eating less meat and fish and cutting down on plastic; a great thing to consider is eating more locally. Not only does this support local farmers and shops; food that has been sourced low-scale and locally is often better for the earth than lots of produce shipped internationally from other countries. Moreover, eating seasonally (not eating fruits and vegetables that aren't in season) is a great thing to consider, as in order to grow these foods outside of the season, lots of energy and water is used.

In reality the most important thing is that you make your sustainable changes a habit and not just something you do for a while, only to then stop or give up. Even if your lifestyle is less sustainable than that of the people around you or of any bloggers you see online, making small changes and sticking to them is better than drastically changing your whole lifestyle to a zero-waste lifestyle and stopping after a month.



In reality the most important thing is that you make your sustainable changes a habit and not just something you do for a while, only to then stop or give up.



Zemblanity

Oh! Pardon Me, I Meant
‘Serendipity’

By Sania Nisar

Warning: The acts performed in this article are highly dangerous. Engage at your own risk

I’ve been hungry in the library. More often than I’d like to admit. It’s only the one time you think you can get away with committing the sin of eating in the presence of Ms Du Plessis that you get caught, though. I am certain her sixth sense can overpower my ability to finesse my way through even the most minuscule act of wickedness. Even though this anecdote may come across as evidence of additional hypothetical crimes I may have committed, I assure you it isn’t. I insist you treat it the way I do; as an honouring of the time spent at the most wonderful dominion in the history of academic presence, Rotterdam International Secondary School.

“The root of education is bitter but the fruit is sweet” - Aristotle

RISS has had an incredible influence on my ability to perform academically and has kindled a flame that has an enormous amount of shine to offer. It is my honour to be able to witness prodigies-in-making and I owe this experience entirely to my teachers. From where I come, it is not common practice to treat students with respect. The sole purpose is to enforce, more than to educate. Perhaps this plays a significant role in forming my admiration for my educators at RISS. I am aware that you and I might differ in our opinions on this, but they are phenomenal. Possessing the power to turn failure into success, my teachers at RISS are the ones I owe my achievements to.

September 1st, 2019

A cliché chronology; but I want to start with my first day at RISS. I strutted through the hallways of the junior campus, all eyes on me – but for the wrong reasons. I resembled a cow. The t-shirt was meant to evoke a puppy, but if there’s anything IB has taught me, it is that everything is ‘open to interpretation’, something I could not deny. I took a seat beside a very charismatic fellow student as the teachers introduced themselves and revealed the schedule of the day. Amidst the ongoing announcements, I examined the room and quickly became aware of the diversity among the people around me. The ‘I’ in IBDP had just got real.

Considering the consequences of settling in an entirely different country, the cultural shocks were the most comical. For instance, herring. I witnessed Mr Mottram attempt a tradition of the Dutch; devouring the fish in its entirety in a single bite. If I may share my thoughts: Why? And how? The level of entertainment was beyond comprehension. Another aspect of this country that has kept me engaged is the weather. I have been astounded by a multitude of affairs, but nothing has surpassed the complexity of determining what season it currently is in the Netherlands. If I recall a particular incident correctly, the sun was remarkably bright, such that it restricted me from engaging in the ice-breaking activities (ironic) while soon later, I felt a cold dewdrop against my scalp as we escaped the boundaries of the establishment we had visited; the one and only Albert Heijn. So incredibly amusing.

March 18th-19th, 2021

The event I suppose I was the most apprehensive about were the TOK presentations. I have decided to believe that our PPD had impressed our TOK coordinators so immensely that they rewarded us with the opportunity to present first. I am not quite sure how they perceive this incident, but I certainly am proud of the work we did. I spent a total of 12 hours perfecting the slides for my team, so I firmly believed the audience was notably dazzled. Pardon my justified narcissism, but I am so clever. As my colleagues attended the session embellished in formal attire, I donned an adorable Minnie Mouse headband. After all, I do take my education quite seriously. Although terrifying, the two consecutive days during which we presented our masterpieces turned out to be a tremendously insightful experience in the DP. It is extremely fascinating to witness the intellectual variety within your grade. Let me assert that I apply no hyperboles when I speak of this. From making us question the reliability of the concept of time to the

discussions of true crimes and court trials, from addressing the discrimination in society to dismantling historical decisions, it was all worth it. Hysterical laughs emerged from the crowd but so did the yearning to address crucial underlying issues concerning our current reality. In hindsight, and it pains me to pen this down, but I am inconceivably grateful to be privileged enough to do the IBDP at RISS.

April 9th, 2021

It is only appropriate that I conclude this trip down memory lane by addressing the incidents on my last day at RISS. I am sure this activity is unheard of and I have to commend whoever is responsible for the creation of it; the Complimenting Activity, which consisted of complimenting your assigned partner during a mere span of 30 seconds. Though, if paired with the right person, you might just fall in love. Setting humour aside, this empowered me to express the appreciation I felt for my fellow grade mates. I cannot begin to articulate the joy I felt throughout this and the ensuing activities. Overwhelmed with emotion, I took a moment to realise how far we’ve all come. We deserve this celebration and so much more, especially because of the deplorable influence the pandemic has had on us.

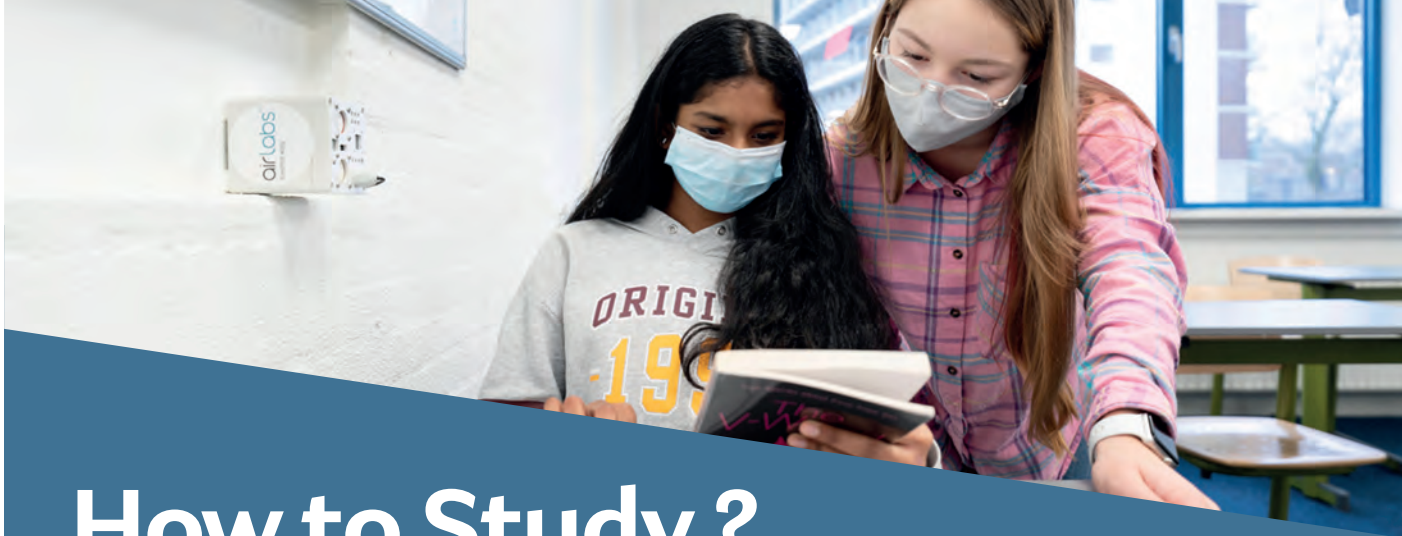
IB1 vs IB2

Oh boy, oh boy. Nothing could have prepared us for the whirlwind IB2 was. I declare with the utmost confidence that my grade mates would be able to relate to the shared misfortune of plummeting grades. I am not afraid to admit that I dropped from a 38 in IB1 to a 34 in IB2 because I will proceed to blame it all on the pandemic. In all seriousness, this year was significantly more adventurous, challenging and entertaining. Even though I haven’t had the chance to test my friendship dynamic with each of my classmates, I can confirm they all played a role in my IB journey and I wouldn’t have it any other way. I haven’t been able to quite express the details of the amazing school experience RISS provided us with, especially the ‘Don’t Do Drugs’ workshop which DID NOT leave me questioning whether I was in the right crowd. Neither did the regular proclamation of the enormous volume of people destined to go to detention. Nor did the results of our IB Mock Exams.

Possibly in 2050

Finally, thank you for allowing me to explore my potential in all of its glory, RISS. I am beholden – so much so, I might credit you in my autobiography I plan to publish once I establish an empire of my own.

*I would like to conclude this masterpiece by saying:
“Cupcakes are muffins that believed in miracles”.*



How to Study ?

By Quentin Frisch

For some students, studying might be one of the most challenging aspects of their life, while for others, studying is just a matter of sitting behind a desk, grabbing a pen, opening a laptop and starting to ‘study’. Some of us approach it with apprehension and stress (often leading to ‘procrastination’), while others will not be stressed at all, regardless of the workload – leaving them with no accumulation of work whatsoever and with actual peace of mind at the end of the day.

No matter what kind of student you are when it comes to studying, this article will explore ways to make your study time more effective, eventually giving advice on how to organize it (and still be able to keep up with social life) and unusual yet helpful ways of studying.

Firstly, it is essential to define what study is and means. From a purely clinical and academic perspective, the Oxford dictionary defines study as “the devotion of time and attention to gaining knowledge of an academic subject, especially by means of books”. In other words, it is the time you spend on books and documents to revise for your upcoming exams, homework and/or just for your own general knowledge.

However, it is common knowledge that ‘devotion of your time and attention’ does not ensure that you will ace your exam or get your homework done properly, but rather indicates that you should invest a lot of yourself in this particular moment. Bearing in mind that studying is also a means of empowering ourselves (knowledge is power, after all...!!!!), it is crucial to make the best of this precious opportunity.

Although there is no universal and ideal way of studying, here are some common (and other quite uncommon) ways that people I know – and even scientists – recommend. The effectiveness of each method depends on whether you learn better visually, aurally, verbally or through demonstration.

The first recommendation is probably the most crucial yet neglected one: planning your studies. This step is one that must not

be overlooked, no matter what type of learner you are – even if you think of yourself as disciplined enough. This step will mainly consist of creating a list/table or even a diagram of time allocations for each subject you have to work on. Writing actual time frames will allow you to concretize your study plan and will eventually make it easier to jump into it. A good way to make sure you follow your study plan is to set a stopwatch when you start studying. For example, if you have decided to spend 30 minutes on math, set the stopwatch for 30 minutes and activate it. Though this can sound a bit stressful or drastic, it actually helps you focus more and dedicate your full attention to the topic.

When deciding how much time you wish to allocate for each of your school subjects, make sure to have at least an hour free or recurrent small breaks between each study session to prevent your brain from becoming over-saturated, thereby decreasing the efficiency of your effort. During those breaks, a good way of not switching off entirely is to do an activity like playing music, strategy video games or reading something that you find relaxing, fun or interesting, in order for your brain to still be stimulated and for it to not lose its concentration level.

After having come up with a plan, you have to decide and therefore test which methods work best for you, but first you should know and, if necessary determine, whether you learn better by aural means, by visualizing, through verbal recitations or by looking at demonstrations. Once you have identified which type of learner you are (and it could be a combination of these) you can try the respective methods associated with the type of learner you are.

Partnering up with a good friend (who is preferably taking the same subject) is a very efficient and motivating way to revise...

If you are an aural learner, you will tend to assimilate information easier when you listen to it. A good way of using your auditory skills is to watch, eyes closed, YouTube videos about the specific topic you are studying and to then make notes. After that, you can re-watch the video and complete your notes. Additionally, working with a friend who recites the lesson is also very effective, as sometimes the friend might have a different way of ‘turning phrases’, making them more accessible or clearer to you.

If you consider yourself to be more of a verbal learner, then you might want to consider using your voice. For example, you can create a slideshow and present it to yourself (this actually works), as if there were a real audience. Along with that, creating flashcards with key words that you would use to structure full phrases when reading them out loud is a good way of ingesting the knowledge.

Again, partnering up with a good friend (who is preferably taking the same subject) is a very efficient and motivating way to revise, by reciprocally asking each other questions about the specific topic you are revising.

For some of you, visualizing through images, demonstrations, tutorials or videos will be more efficient than simply writing down or reciting the information. In order for this method to be fully efficient, active listening and notetaking are crucial, as this will enable you to avoid missing important details and will also get your concentration to the highest level possible to better assimilate information. Along with video and images, drawing your own representation of the topic through a schematic dia-

gram of chemical processes or a mind map of a historical period or even for maths, is very helpful. This helps because you first revise by building the schematic representation or drawing the mind maps making interconnections, while you then revise a second, third, fourth times etc. when rereading what you drew.

Listening to music is also a popular way of becoming fully invested in study time, as well as feeling more motivated and comfortable. Nevertheless, music is an effective support only if it helps keep you focused; many of my friends tell me that listening to lyricless music is way more efficient and helpful than songs with lyrics – as those will often distract you and direct your attention towards the lyrics of the song. Music platforms and apps create playlists specifically for studying – thus eliminating the need to waste time preparing a dedicated playlist.

In the end, what matters the most is for you to discover creative and efficient ways of studying. Whatever type of learner you are and whatever your grades are!!!

Which Book Flavor Do You Prefer?

Did you know that scientists at the University of Sussex have discovered that reading for only six minutes is enough to lower people’s stress levels by 68%? Crazy, huh? Well, there are crazier things in those books you’ve always postponed reading. Improving vocabulary and comprehension, increasing the ability to empathize, concentrate and imagine – this can all be achieved by doing one thing: reading. A book is like ice cream: you don’t enjoy eating it until you find a flavor you like, but once you find it, it feels like the best thing on earth. The RISS library can help you find your favorite flavor in books! All of the books mentioned below are a part of our school’s very own catalogue. The online library catalogue allows you to search for books, reserve and renew books online, view your loan history, write reviews, and create your own favorites list!

By Sahira Gruis & Sude Bozcal



There is no doubt that Romeo and Juliet are the first ones that come to most people’s minds when they think of romance. But what about Ben and Arthur, who managed to find each other in the lively metropolis of New York? *What If It’s Us* is a heartwarming love story of two boys who run into each other at the post office. This realistic fiction will keep you up all night, so we’d recommend reading this during the weekend! In *Breathless*, Claude’s life suddenly changes when her parents decide to get a divorce. After beginning her new life on an island, she meets Miah, who has a past full of secrets. This summer romance is perfect for warm summer nights! Now let’s travel back in time to the ‘90s to witness Reza and Judy’s love in *Like a Love Story*. A love story that is not like any other... You will not only witness their love but also their commitment to activism.



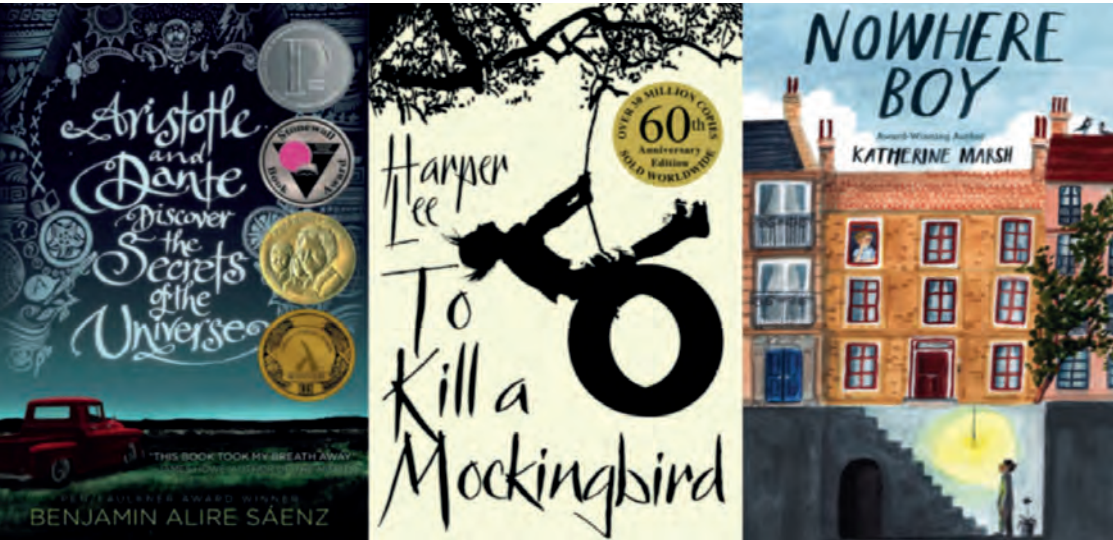
We all are curious about the future, right? Flying cars, teleportation, robots... It sounds like a different reality. However, there is a way to live in the future without having to wait, and that is by reading some really great futuristic novels. *Dune*, the world’s best-selling science fiction novel (according to WIRED), tells the story of Paul Atreides who lives in a society in which various noble houses control planetary fiefs. *Air*, is the story of Chung Mae who finds herself in a reaction to experiments with a new information technology system called Air. Last but not least, *Ready Player One* is a story about Wade Watts who lives in a dystopian novel and searches for an easter egg in a worldwide virtual reality game. All of these fascinating novels will broaden your imagination and expectations for the future.



Let's face it: a lot of us decide whether or not to read a book based on how long it is. If you find yourself in need of a good book that isn't too lengthy but still just as meaningful as your standard novel, the RISS library has a lot to offer. Check out *White Bird*, a graphic novel that expands on characters from the beloved *Wonder* series. *Solutions and Other Problems* features a collection of humorous short stories along with more than 1,600 pieces of art! Written as a series of free-verse poems, *Love That Dog* is told from the perspective of a young boy who despises poetry (oh, the irony).



We all grow up – newsflash, right? Despite whatever happens, life doesn't stop. Many, if not all of us, have probably felt some anxiety when thinking about the future. That's where coming-of-age books come in. In this genre, the reader follows the protagonist as they progress through childhood to adulthood. From absolute classics like *To Kill a Mockingbird* to contemporary works like *Nowhere Boy* and *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*, there's a huge range in terms of what this genre entails. An angsty teen attempting to cope with the fact that his brother's in jail, a homesick and lonely boy trying to deal with moving to a different country, a child learning of the ugly facets of life and how unfair the world can be – if any of these synopses appeal to you then be sure to check out the aforementioned titles!



Want to feel inspired? Consider an autobiography! Reading the real-life story of someone who has found success can provide some valuable insight into how to tackle problems you may be facing in your own life. Autobiographies also reign supreme in terms of immersiveness – there's no better way to step into the shoes of someone else than reading their first-hand account! *Born A Crime* and *Bossypants* both manage to recount some of the serious incidents they've endured while making you laugh at the same time. Michelle Obama's memoir, *Becoming*, invites the reader into her world as she outlines the experiences that have shaped her into the icon she is today.



Believe it or not, reading does not have to be boring. Even though it's a cliché, it really is true that a good book is like watching a movie, except that you're the one in charge! You decide what dialects the characters speak in, how the furniture is arranged in a room, and what background noise can be heard at any given moment. It is easy to claim that reading isn't for you when all the books you've read thus far haven't been that great. But there is an unbelievable amount of literature in the RISS library alone, just waiting to be devoured. Besides, nobody can tell you how to read a book. Your English teacher can throw different interpretations into your head, but in the end, the way you interpret a book is entirely up to you. When reading, the power is in your hands. So why not check out a book?

Want more suggestions, or need more help finding books and resources?

Contact the librarian, Ms Bier, at jbi@wolfert.nl or visit her on the first floor of the senior campus library!

For more information about the online library catalogue, visit <https://riss-wolfert.auralibrary.nl/auraiex.aspx>.

Sources:
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dune_\(novel\)#:~:text=Dune%20is%20set%20in%20the,stewardship%20of%20the%20planet%20Arrakis.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dune_(novel)#:~:text=Dune%20is%20set%20in%20the,stewardship%20of%20the%20planet%20Arrakis.)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ready_Player_One
<https://quillandquire.com/review/like-a-love-story/#:~:text=Set%20in%20New%20York%20City,his%20step-father%20sends%20him%20to.>
<https://www.yabookscentral.com/yafiction/25586-breathless-2#:~:text=There%20isn't%20enough%20time,%2C%20mosquito%20bites%2C%20and%20all.>
<https://emorywheel.com/what-if-its-us/#:~:text=%E2%80%9CWWhat%20if%20it's%20Us%E2%80%9D%20follows,up%20with%20ex%2Dboyfriend%20Hudson.>

Interview with Grade 6 & 12 Students

‘Time flies by,’ they say and you never realize this until one day you look back and see all the memories you have made. It is the most valuable thing for sure. You can’t keep it or take it back, so it is important to make sure you don’t waste it. Especially during your school years, it is hard to keep track of time. So we thought that asking two RISS students the same questions and seeing how they answered these differently would be interesting. Lavinia from Grade 12 and Sofia from Grade 6 very kindly accepted the invitation to be interviewed. We asked them 10 questions and the interview went more like a friendly conversation. Their answers give us different points of view, as their ages and life experiences are different from each other.



Take a look at this friendly interview:

■ CAN YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF? HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF?

Lavinia: I am a Grade 12 student, who is currently studying for the IB exams. I would describe myself as a very spontaneous and cautious person.

Sofia: I am a Grade 6 student and I would describe myself as a happy person. My friends say that I am nice and caring too.

■ WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE ONE MOVIE OR BOOK THAT EVERYONE SHOULD READ BEFORE STARTING 12TH/6TH GRADE?

Lavinia: I think everyone should watch White Chicks before starting high school because it teaches you a lot about looks. I would also suggest that everyone read Wonder which is about a boy who is very nervous about his looks and is being bullied. The book teaches you to be nice to the people around you and I think this is very important.

Sofia: I definitely think that everyone should read and watch the Harry Potter series.

■ HOW MUCH FREE TIME DO YOU HAVE WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE SCHOOL WORK AND HOW DO YOU SPEND THAT?

Lavinia: Compared to other people, I think I have enough free time as the subjects I chose don't take much time and I am very pleased with that. In my spare time, I like to play the piano. Also, I love talking to the people around me and learning about them and their cultures. I think that this is one of the best things about studying in an International School.

Sofia: It depends on the days. During the week, I would say I have around five hours of free time a day and on the weekends I have the whole day to myself.

■ WHAT FIELDS ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?

Lavinia: Technology and business. I find how technology affects politics and education very interesting.

Sofia: I think drama, English and Spanish are the subjects that I enjoy the most – but that might change in the future.

■ WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO AFTER YOU GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL?

Lavinia: I am going to study Security Studies at Leiden University and I am very excited about this.

Sofia: I always like to help people so I think would want to be a doctor and study medicine but sometimes I don't like seeing people get hurt, so I am not very sure.

■ WHEN YOU LOOK BACK TO THE PAST SIX MONTHS, WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Lavinia: Crazy. IA deadlines, EE deadlines, revisions... Even if you try to plan things, your planning hits the floor because everything comes at you all at once. Then you are fed up and realize that you don't even have the time to plan things.

Sofia: I think the lockdown affected me a lot. I recently moved here and I couldn't talk much with my friends, we couldn't hang out, so it made me feel lonely. But the hardest thing was leaving my country and my dog.

■ IF YOU HAD THE CHANCE, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO YOUR 2-YEAR YOUNGER SELF?

Lavinia: Use the time you have to study and improve yourself. I engaged with a lot of people, but I definitely could have spent less time on my phone. I also would tell myself to not procrastinate.

Sofia: Sometimes I think about something and it ends in a completely different way and I feel disappointed. In order to not feel like that, I would tell myself that life is not as perfect as you think it is.

■ WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE MOST IMPORTANT GLOBAL ISSUE RIGHT NOW?

Lavinia: The main thing that speaks to me is racism. Especially if it happens in school. This happens less in International Schools – but in other schools, people get excluded. I like that, in international schools, people always accept each other.

Sofia: Racism for sure. There are a lot of people dying because of their race and I don't think this is right, because everyone is equal and is on the same level. No one should face discrimination and be judged because of their skin tone. I think how people are on the inside should determine who they are.

■ WHAT KIND OF LIFE DO YOU WISH TO HAVE IN YOUR THIRTIES?

Lavinia: I hope to be a successful security specialist working in the military or government. I would also like to own a house or maybe have a child.

Sofia: I would like to have a good family and a job. A cool house to live in would also be nice, but the main thing I really want is to live in a respectful, peaceful and cleaner world. I want to be more educated and I don't want to see any people fighting.

■ DO YOU THINK UNIVERSITY/7TH GRADE WILL PUSH YOUR LIMITS? ARE YOU EXCITED/SCARED?

Lavinia: I think it will push my limits. I am not scared but excited, because I am very into the subject I chose. I always talk about this and the course has now become a part of my life.

Sofia: I am excited about 7th grade, but I am also scared in a way. I feel like I will be doing a lot of homework and not have much free time.



By Aarushi Ganguli

Stepping into the Future

Deciding what we want to do for the rest of our lives is often a daunting task, especially when that decision has to be taken at our young age. However, with some advice and guidance from graduating students and alumni, it can be easier to make that decision and to not feel pressured to go down a certain path. I talked to many students who were all either studying or going to study vastly different courses, or were talking about what a gap year could look like – in present circumstances especially.

Many current Grade 12s offer the same advice: follow your passions. Sania Nisar decided to study business due to her interest in it, while others, such as Saika Nishikawa and Liam McCarthy, based their choice on their personal preferences, being Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology and Film Studies respectively. Others advise to take a well-rounded course that prepares students for the ever-changing world – like Max van den Hill, who is planning on studying Law, Politics, Economics and Philosophy as a single degree.

However, knowing what you want to do later in life is not at all a requirement for selecting a study. For example, Sneha Ajay is going to study Computer Sciences – however, she has no set idea as to what she will do afterwards or if she will stay the course. Fortunately, there are many opportunities, especially here in the Netherlands, for determining your capabilities.

The decision to study in the Netherlands is common amongst the international community and it's no surprise why. Sania pointed out that some of the universities are at the top of the world ranking when it comes to particular subjects, such as business and economics at Erasmus University. Another reason would be the relatively low tuition fees for international students; one of the many reasons why some students, such as Max and Sneha, wish to study here. Picking which university to go to is often difficult, but becomes an easier process if you look into certain aspects of student life, such as extracurriculars or the effectiveness of the course itself – for instance, when you choose to study business at Erasmus University due to it being more finance-based.

However, applying in the Netherlands itself is not your only option. Personally, I have applied in the UK to study archaeology and history, due to the prestigious nature of the course at that particular university. Another example is Liam's situation. He has applied and gotten into NYU for film studies in Abu Dhabi. This was due to his personal situation, as well as the fact that the course itself is highly ranked within NYU. Anne Melgar, another current Grade 12 student, is going to study creative writing in Spain, due to her language preference. In short, there is no pressure to study in any specific area. In fact, the overall advice from most of the Grade 12s is this; follow your heart and make sure you enjoy what you are doing, and – if possible – follow the IB programme, as it helps develop a well-rounded understanding of the world.

I also interviewed some alumni of RISS who are already going to university. One major thing that students need to get used to is the level of independence that comes with this experience. Hilde de Vos and Rose-Marie Everaert advise to have a strategy and work out a homework plan in order to stay on task. Another important aspect was the effectiveness of the IB in university endeavours. Fleur Stolk, who is studying Law at Leiden University, says the IB helped prepare her for the amount of essay writing and academic reading that is required for her course. Another advantage of this is the fact that, having followed the IB programme, you might be ahead of a lot of your classmates in terms of being able to handle the amount of studying that is required in order to learn the course material. However, this is not the only path that can be taken.

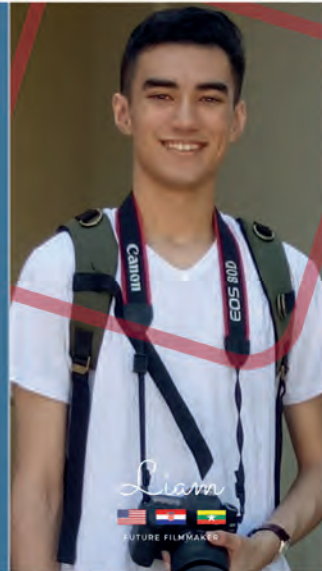
Another option for after school is to take a gap year to figure out things. This is often a popular choice for students, as it lets them take a breather after high school to truly find what they are passionate about and whether university in its traditional sense is in their best interests.

Mare Versteeg, a current Grade 12 graduate, is one of many students who will be taking this path. Her decision was fuelled by her intention to properly think about what she wishes to do after school and about whether university is even the right choice for her, as there are many different options, especially here in the Netherlands. One of these options would be pursuing an MBO, which would open the door to vocational training and subsequent jobs, a possibility that Mare is looking into. At the moment, she is looking into possibly getting a job here, while evaluating her next steps. Just remember that you have many options during a gap year, such as engaging in extracurriculars or travelling, all of which are valid and normal in an aim to find what you are passionate about.

Alumni who have taken this path have the same reasons for taking a gap year. Leen Jammalieh says that all the stress from IB led her to wanting to take a year to contemplate her options and then choose. She spent her gap year volunteering, getting a job, taking some online courses and researching different universities. After this break in studies, she is ready to go back to school, which shows how much a relaxing gap year can do to help you refocus on what you want to do. Her advice would be to trust your gut and to do what you think would help further yourself as a person.

Hopefully, this has proven helpful to the students who are starting out on this journey – and please remember that there is no pressure to pick any particular path after your time at RISS. Follow where your heart takes you and just remember to have a plan.

Hall of Fame 2021



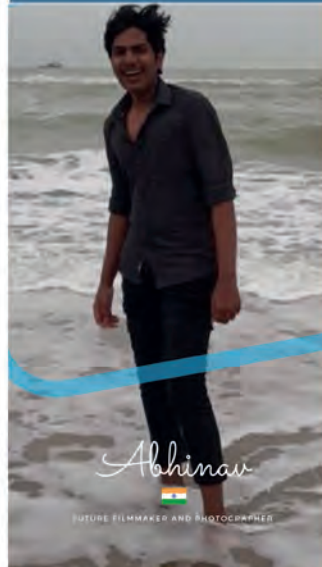
SENIOR QUOTE
[LAST LINES]
PLAINVIEW: I'M FINISHED.
- THERE WILL BE BLOOD (2007)

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
THE GREAT COMMUNITY THAT I HAVE SHARED THE IBDP EXPERIENCE WITH AS WELL AS THE OPPORTUNITIES THIS EXPERIENCE HAS GIVEN ME, BY WHICH WE HAVE BECOME - NOT ONLY BETTER STUDENTS - BUT BETTER PEOPLE IN THE PROCESS.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE FACT THAT MY COMMUTE TO AND FROM SCHOOL WAS A FIVE MINUTE WALK.

Liam
FUTURE FILMMAKER

Liam
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"I DIDN'T KNOW 'IT' WAS DUE TODAY!!!"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
BUILDING LIFE-LONG FRIENDSHIPS WITH PEOPLE IS THE BEST THING THAT HAPPENED TO ME IN THE IB. ALSO, THE SMALL CLASSROOMS WHERE I USED TO MESS UP MATH EVERY TIME AND THE STRESS WHICH I MIGHT NEVER TAKE IN THE FUTURE.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE LUNCH BREAKS WHEN WE DO NOTHING PRODUCTIVE.

Abhinav
FUTURE FILMMAKER AND PHOTOGRAPHER

Abhinav
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"HEEL VEEL WOORDEN, HEEL WEINIG VERSTAAN" - MICH

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
HIDING OUT IN THE ORC AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE AND ANY FEW MOMENTS SPENT NOT STRESSING ABOUT SCHOOL AND RATHER HANGING OUT IN WINDOW SILLS/THE GREENHOUSE

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
ALL THE INSANELY QUESTIONABLE THINGS MY FRIENDS HAVE SAID OVER THE PREVIOUS YEARS, SEEING HOW ALL OF US INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER VIA JOKES AND ALL THE MANY WAYS WE HAVE BEEN TERRORIZING OUR TEACHERS IN THE MOST LOVING WAY (THIS ONE'S FOR YOU MR. MOTTRAM)

Adrienne
FUTURE IN BUSINESS AND MEDIA

Adrienne
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"IN THE IB MY GRADES FELL FASTER THAN MY WEIGHT, AND I LOST A LOT OF WEIGHT..."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
BARBEQUES WITH FRIENDS, OH AND BIKING IN MY FREE TIME, BUT BARBEQUES WERE ALSO MORE FUN.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
TELLING PEOPLE THAT I'M IN THE TECH CREW IN A VERY PRETENTIOUS WAY :)

Alp
FUELLING FUTURE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Alp
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
T'WAS NICE BUT IMMA DIP - YOUR FAVORITE LIGHTSKIN

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
LOWKEY INTERNAL SUSPENSION

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
FRIENDS AND MEIN PLAYBOY

Angelique
FUTURE CORPORATE LAWYER

Angelique
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES BEGINS WITH A SINGLE STEP."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
FOOTBALL IN THE FLEX ROOM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
FRIENDS

Arata
FUTURE... WITH THE FLOW

Arata
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"BETTER RUN NOW BEFORE YOU GET TIRED." - COACH

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
THE AMELAND TRIPI OH WAIT...

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE BREAKS, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

Bolke
FUTURE REAR ADMIRAL

Bolke
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"THAT WAS A FAT BRUH MOMENT"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
THE FRIENDS WE MADE ALONG THE WAY AND ALL THAT GOOD STUFF, OH AND ALSO FINDING OUT HOW BAD AT CHESS I AM.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE BOYS.

Christian
FUTURE BILLIONAIRE OR ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PIMP

Christian
CLASS OF
2021



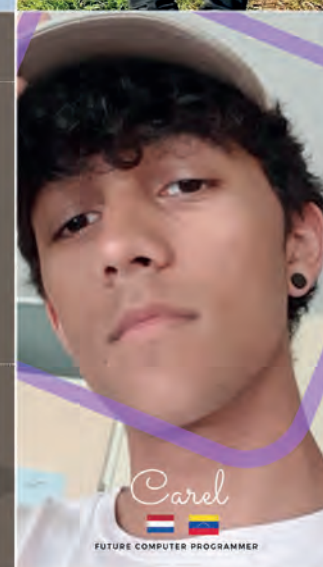
SENIOR QUOTE
"I WISH THE BEST OF LUCK TO MY OPPS. NOT."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
MS. DUPLESSIS TAKING ME OUT CLASSES FOR INTERNAL SUSPENSION SO I COULD WORK HARD, THANK YOU MS. DUPLESSIS.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
WRITING TRACKS ABOUT 58TH WITH THE BOYS

Ayman
FUTURE PROFESSIONAL CHEFF

Ayman
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
WHEN YOU'RE ON TOP, THERE'S ALWAYS SOME CHUMP TRYING TO DRAG YOU DOWN. PULLIN' AT YOUR FEET, SCUFFIN' UP YOUR NICE SHOES."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
I LIVED THROUGH IT

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
NOT THE WORKLOAD, NOR THE STUDENTS, ONLY THE TEACHERS, YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

Carel
FUTURE COMPUTER PROGRAMMER

Carel
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"DOES GIVING THIS QUOTE COUNT FOR CAS?"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
THE GREEN COUCHES IN THE ORC

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
TOK WITH MR. MOTTRAM

Salma
PSYCHOLOGIST

Salma
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE

"MISS, I'M JUST GOING TO THE BATHROOM REAL QUICK, I'LL BE BACK."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

PERIODS SPENT IN THE BATHROOM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

HIGHSCHOOL
RELATIONSHIP DRAMA

Dorotea

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE PSYCHOLOGIST



SENIOR QUOTE

"CAPRI SUN IS NOT FRUIT JUICE"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

OVER THE COURSE OF TWO YEARS I GAINED A LOT OF NEW FRIENDSHIPS THAT CAME WITH SUPPORTING EACH OTHER BUT ALSO TAKING NAPS IN THE ORC AND EATING SNACKS TO AVOID DEALING WITH DEADLINES. THE MUTUAL STRESS ALSO CAME WITH MUTUAL SUPPORT AND THAT IS SOMETIMES I REALLY APPRECIATE AND VALUE.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

I AM GOING TO MISS THE GETTING YELLED AT BY MS DU PLESSIS :)

Emma

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE ENTREPRENEUR



SENIOR QUOTE

"FICTION REVEALS TRUTHS THAT REALITY OBSCURES"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

THE TIME SPENT WITH FRIENDS

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

MY FRIENDS AND THE TEACHERS WHO PROVIDED ME WITH HELP THESE LAST 2 YEARS

Aarushi

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE ARCHAEOLOGIST



SENIOR QUOTE

"I DO REMEMBER, BUT SOMETIMES WHEN I TRY TO REMEMBER, I FORGET." - WINNIE THE POOH

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

THE SKI TRIP AND PLANNING THE GALA EVEN THOUGH IT SADLY GOT CANCELLED, THE PROCESS WAS GREAT AND LOT'S OF FUN!

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

THE GREAT TEACHERS THAT HAVE WORKED AROUND THE CLOCK TO MAKE THINGS AS NORMAL AS THEY COULD BE DURING A VERY ABNORMAL TIME (MR MOTTRAM).

Emma

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE PHILANTHROPIST



SENIOR QUOTE

"DON'T DOG THE BOYS" - MAHATMA GANDHI

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT MY LAST TWO YEARS IN THE DP HAS TO BE THE LIMITED, YET STILL ENJOYABLE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. I REALLY ENJOYED THE EVENTS WHICH WERE ALLOWED TO GO THROUGH AT THE BEGINNING OF GRADE 11, THE GROUP & PROJECT AND THE ONE DAY TRIP TO THE BEACH ARE EVENTS WHICH I LOOK BACK FONDLY ON. IN A VERY FUNNY WAY, MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT THE LAST TWO YEARS PROVIDED VARIETY IN A QUITE MONOTONOUS ONLINE PERIOD OF SCHOOL.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

I'M GOING TO MISS THE RANDOM GAMES OF CARDS AND CHESS DURING THE BREAKS, THE CONVERSATIONS WHICH MEANT NOTHING AND EVERYTHING AT THE SAME TIME, THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY WHICH WAS FOSTERED AND WHICH HELD US ALL TOGETHER DURING TOUGH TIMES. I AM GOING TO MISS THE CRAZY ENERGY OF THE JUNIOR CAMPUS DURING BREAKS WHILE DURING GRADE 9 BREAKS, MOST IMPORTANTLY THOUGH, I WILL MISS THE FREEDOM WHICH CAME FROM THE IGNORANCE OF CHILDHOOD.

Eric

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE GENETIC ENGINEER



SENIOR QUOTE

"IT TOOK ALL MY STRENGTH NOT TO FALL APART, TRYING WITH ALL MY MIGHT TO GIVE THAT ESSAY A START. I SPENT SO MANY NIGHTS FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF. OH HOW I CRIED, BUT NOW I HOLD MY HEAD UP HIGH, I WILL SURVIVE!" - GLORIA GAYNOR

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

IA/EE UPLOAD DAY

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

ALL THE KIND PEOPLE

Flore

CLASS OF 2021

CRIMINAL LAW



SENIOR QUOTE

"YOU HAVE TO MOVE DIFFERENT BECAUSE OLD KEYS CAN'T OPEN NEW DOORS"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

...THE FIELD TRIPS...

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

THE LUNCH LADY

Glomanu

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE BIG CHASER



SENIOR QUOTE

"DO WHAT YOU LOVE...AND THE IB :)"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

COMING TO SCHOOL AND BEING ABLE TO SEE ALL MY FRIENDS. OBVIOUSLY SCHOOL IS A PLACE TO LEARN, BUT THE TIME SPENT WITH MY FRIENDS IN BETWEEN LESSONS WAS MY FAVOURITE THING.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

ALL MY FRIENDS AND MS DAWLAT

Innoce

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE BIG CHASER



SENIOR QUOTE

"MAYBE IF I'M NICE TO THE GOOGLE DOC IT'LL WRITE MY ESSAY FOR ME"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

FOOTBALL

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

MY FRIENDS

Joshua

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE BIG CHASER



SENIOR QUOTE

"THE WIND IS MY TITANIC"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

FLEX ROOM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

TEACHERS AND FRIENDS

Josquin

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE INDUSTRIAL DESIGNER



SENIOR QUOTE

"WHY USE YOUR MIND WHEN YOU CAN USE A PHONE?"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

MY FRIENDS/MR ALBERTS/MR MOTTRAM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

MY FRIENDS

Julie

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE CP



SENIOR QUOTE

"NOT EASY BEING THE MAIN CHARACTER"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?

YASMIM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:

1ST PERIODSS YUH

Katerina

CLASS OF 2021

FUTURE ARCHITECT



SENIOR QUOTE
"IF MANS CALLS YOU A
HOUSEKEEPER... YOU SAY YES,
YOU BUY THE HOUSE AND I
KEEP IT" - MIA DIO

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
I DIDN'T TEST POSITIVE (YET)

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:

THE THING I AM GOING TO
MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
HALIMA THE CANTEN LADY
AND MR MOTTRAM'S
MOTIVATIONAL SPEECHES
AFTER MATH TESTS ON
FRIDAYS (MAYBE YASMIM
AND KATERINA TOO)

Kirsty

FUTURE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST, BEAUTY GURU, TRAVEL
VLOGGER, GEOGRAPHER, ARCHITECT, ENGINEER, WRITER,
PLANNER, ACTOR, ELECTRICIAN, CHIEF, PSYCHOLOGIST,
MUSICIAN, BERNARD OGGS, FARMER, SECRETARY, MECHANIC,
POLICE OFFICER, JUDGE, LIFEGUARD

Kirsty
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"HEY LAVINIA, IS JE BRIL NEP
OF ZO?" - ADRIENNE

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:

ONE OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS ABOUT MY LAST
TWO YEARS IN THE DP, WOULD DEFINITELY BE THE
AMAZING MEMORIES I HAVE MADE WITH STUDENTS
AND TEACHERS, LIKE THE ENDLESS
PROCRUSTINATION AFTER SCHOOL AFTER YOU
SWARE YOU WOULD DO YOUR WORK. FURTHER,
HELPING EACH OTHER THROUGH THE COURSE,
EVEN THOUGH SOME PART OF OUR IB EXPERIENCE
WAS ONLINE. WE ALL MADE SURE TO KEEP EACH
OTHER MOTIVATED AND STRIVE TO THE BEST OF
OUR ABILITIES

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST
ABOUT RISS:

THE RISS COMMUNITY. HAVING BEEN HERE FOR THE PAST SIX
YEARS, I HAVE ENGAGED WITH STUDENTS AND TEACHERS FROM
DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS. I WILL DEEPLY MISS ALL THE FRIENDS
AND TEACHERS I HAVE CREATED AMAZING BONDS WITH. MR
MARSHALL, UPON SCIENCE, WHERE WE MADE THE MOST
AMACULATE ROASTS AND ARE LIBERT (ENGLISH) WITH THE
MOST INTERESTING AND CHALLENGING DISCUSSIONS. ALL THE
BEST TO MY FELLOW IB STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND RISS
COMMUNITY. YOU WILL BE MISSED DEARLY AND HAVE LEFT ME
WITH AMAZING MEMORIES. <3

Lavinia
CLASS OF
2021

FUTURE CYBERSECURITY SPECIALIST



SENIOR QUOTE
"ONLINE LESSONS REALLY
BOOSTED UP MY IB GRADE"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
THE FLEX ROOM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE BOYS

Liam

CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"SMILE, THERE'S GINI!"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:

THE FRIENDSHIPS AND
CONNECTIONS THAT I HAVE
BUILT OVER THE YEARS AND THE
AMAZING MEMORIES THAT I
WILL NEVER FORGET.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:

THE WARM AND WELCOMING
CULTURE OF RISS AND I
GENUINELY HOPE TO
ENCOUNTER THE SAME IN MY
FUTURE UNIVERSITY.

Lisa
CLASS OF
2021

FUTURE ENTREPRENEUR



SENIOR QUOTE
"DON'T STOP ME NOOWWWW!"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
NOT THAT I DIDN'T ENJOY THE CONSTANT
STRESS AND DEADLINES, BUT I WOULD HAVE TO
SAY THE FEELING YOU GET WHEN YOU WORK
REALLY HARD AND THEN YOU FINALLY SEE IT PAY
OFF. IT DIDN'T MATTER WHETHER THAT WAS A
GRADE FOR A TEST OR A REALLY GOOD RACE ON
THE TRACK. WHEN YOU'VE PUT IN SO MANY
HOURS INTO SOMETHING AND THEN IT FINALLY
"CLICKS" ESPECIALLY IN THESE LAST TWO YEARS
WHEN IT FELT LIKE A LOT OF HARD WORK WENT
UNSEEN.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST
ABOUT RISS:

I'VE READ THAT THE FRIENDS YOU MAKE BETWEEN AGES 15-18
ARE THE ONES THAT WILL LAST THE LONGEST. I REALLY HOPE
THAT'S TRUE BECAUSE THE PEOPLE I'VE BEEN AROUND THE
LAST TWO YEARS (SOME OF THEM EVEN LONGER) REALLY
MAKE YOU LAUGH WITHOUT FAIL. IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW
BAD YOUR DAY IS, THESE GUYS WILL ALWAYS DO SOMETHING
TO MAKE YOU SMILE. IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHAT WE
DID, WHETHER IT WAS A JUST DANCE TOURNAMENT, STUDYING
TOGETHER OR GOING TO THE BEACH TOGETHER. NOTHING
WAS EVER BORING WITH THEM!

Lora

CLASS OF
2021

WORK IN RESEARCH AND/OR ADVISORY
TO IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY AROUND
THE WORLD.



SENIOR QUOTE
"[ANYTHING] WITH THE
BOYS"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:

GROWING AS A PERSON
AND IN HEIGHT.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:

ANYTHING WITH
THE BOYS

Ludo
CLASS OF
2021

FUTURE MECHANICAL ENGINEER



SENIOR QUOTE
"24 POINTS BUT I STILL BENCH
MORE THAN YOU"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
BANTER WITH TEACHERS

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:
FRIENDS

Luuk
CLASS OF
2021

FUTURE MASOC OPERATOR



SENIOR QUOTE
"DID YOU HEAR THE
EXAMS ARE CANCELLED?
WAIT NEVER MIND..."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
SOME OF MY FAVOURITE MEMORIES
FROM THESE PAST TWO YEARS ARE
PLAYING FOOTBALL WITH THE BOYS
AT BREAK, LEARNING TO SURF WHEN
WE WENT TO THE BEACH AND JUST IN
GENERAL HANGING OUT IN THE
LIBRARY. I ALSO ENJOYED LEARNING
NEW THINGS IN CLASS, WHICH WILL
HOPEFULLY COME IN USEFUL AT
UNIVERSITY AND LATER ON IN LIFE.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:
DEFINITELY HAVING TO WAKE UP
EARLY FOR 1ST PERIOD. NO BUT
SERIOUSLY, I WILL MISS THE FRIENDS I
HAVE MADE OVER THE PAST TWO
YEARS, SEEING THEM EVERYDAY AND
BEING ABLE TO SPEND TIME WITH
THEM.

Marcos
CLASS OF
2021

FUTURE ENGINEER



SENIOR QUOTE

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
TRYING TO MAKE THE MOST OF
ITS, ESPECIALLY THROUGH THE
BLITZKRIEG OF IA DEADLINES.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:
HAHA

Mas
CLASS OF
2021

BREWING/DISTILLING, UNLESS THE RISS
MAKE MORE MONEY



SENIOR QUOTE
"SHUT UP, I'M COUNTING MY
STITCHES" (EVERY SINGLE
KNITTER EVER)

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:

THE START AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
#CAKEFRIDAY MOVEMENT

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE STRESS, THE PANIC, THE
SLEEPLESS NIGHTS. THEY
MAKE ME FEEL ALIVE

Malene
Kristine
CLASS OF
2021

IN THE FUTURE YOUR BOSS



SENIOR QUOTE
"ONE SECOND, LET ME WRITE
THAT DOWN"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
MR. MOTTRAMS LECTURES

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE TEACHERS

Mare
CLASS OF
2021

THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER




SENIOR QUOTE
"BULKING SEASON NEVER
ENDS"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST
YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
THERE IS A HUGE LIST OF THINGS THAT
I REALLY ENJOYED DOING OVER THE
LAST TWO YEARS; PLAYING FOOTBALL
DURING BREAKS AND FREE PERIODS
HAS TO BE UP THERE.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE
MOST ABOUT RISS:
ALL THE TEACHERS AND
SPENDING TIME WITH
MY FRIENDS, ESPECIALLY
IN THE FLEX ROOM; 77 <3

Mateusz
CLASS OF
2021

FUTURE ENGINEER/ECONOMETRICIAN




SENIOR QUOTE
"WAS RELEASED FROM HIS 2 YEAR SENTENCE"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
INNOCE'S HOUSE

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
SEEING MY FRIENDS EVERYDAY, EITHER ONLINE OR AT SCHOOL.

Mattis
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE PROFESSIONAL STOCK TRADER




SENIOR QUOTE
"WE FINNA DIE" - MLK

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
BANTER

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE ELEVATOR PICS

Maurice
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE PIZZA BAKER




SENIOR QUOTE
"STAY CLASSY"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
BEING ABLE TO CONCENTRATE FOR MORE THAN 4 MINUTES.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE DEADLINES.

Nina
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE MARITIME LAWYER




SENIOR QUOTE
"ONLYFANS? NAH, ONLYFRIENDS."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
IT'S DIFFICULT TO THINK OF A FAVOURITE THING AS THE CORONAVIRUS KIND OF RUINED OUR LAST YEAR BUT IF I HAD TO CHOOSE IT WOULD BE THE TIMES WHERE I GOT TO EXPLORE OUTSIDE OF MY COMFORT ZONE DUE TO THE SUPPORT I GOT FROM MY FRIENDS.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
ARE THE TUTORIAL LESSONS FROM MR MOTTRAM WHERE WE GOT LIFE CHANGING ADVICE AND THE HUGE AMOUNT OF MENTAL SUPPORT FROM THE MEN HIMSELF.

Rein
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE CEO OF MY OWN COMPANY




SENIOR QUOTE
"DIDN'T EXPECT TO MAKE IT THIS FAR TO BE HONEST."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
THE SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT MIXED WITH DREAD AS YOU WORKED THROUGH THE DEADLINES.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
PAMOJA HL ECONOMICS

Maxi
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE ECONOMIST




SENIOR QUOTE
"HET IS HIER LETTERLIJK CIRCUIS DO SOLEIL, HOWEVER YOU MAY SCHRIJF THAT" - LAVINA

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
ALTHOUGH IT WAS REALLY UPSETTING THAT OUR IBDP EXPERIENCE WAS LIMITED, I WILL BE FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR ALL OF THE UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES I WAS ABLE TO MAKE WITH ALL MY CLASSMATES BOTH ON AND OFFLINE.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
SEEING ALL OF THE FRIENDS I MADE OVER THE YEARS, ON A DAILY BASIS.

Michelle
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCHER




SENIOR QUOTE
"GOT A PROBLEM? TRY AND SOLVE IT. IF YOU CAN'T, DON'T MAKE A PROBLEM OUT OF IT".

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
MR. MOTTRAM'S FALAFEL ANALOGIES.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
FRIENDS, MANY FUN MOMENTS.

Robert
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE DOCTOR (POSSIBLY NEUROLOGIST)




SENIOR QUOTE
"I AM NOT SPECIAL AND NEITHER IS EVERYONE ELSE. COMPARISONS ARE USELESS."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
EVERYTHING EXCEPT THE CONSTANT UNINFORMED TRAIN DELAYS.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
FRIENDS AND TEACHERS; PEOPLE THAT I MET AND HAVE MADE MY LIFE MUCH RICHER.

Saika
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE NEUROLOGIST




SENIOR QUOTE
"YESTERDAY YOU SAID TOMORROW, SO JUST DO IT!" - SHIA LABEOUF

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
GETTING INVOLVED WITH THINGS I OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE NEVER ATTEMPTED OR BEEN INTERESTED IN WITHOUT CAS OPPORTUNITIES AND THE FEW EVENTS WE HAD BEFORE LOCKDOWN.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
BEING ABLE TO GET TO PERSONALLY KNOW MANY PEOPLE INCLUDING BOTH TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, AS WELL AS HAVING INTERESTING AND SILLY DEBATES ABOUT OUR DIFFERENCES DURING CLASS.

Nadia
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE ENTREPRENEUR FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



SENIOR QUOTE
"☆☆☆☆, TOO MUCH CALCULUS AND THE COUCHES COULD HAVE BEEN SOFTER"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
HAHAHAHA

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE CANTEN LADIES

Nikita
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE ECONOMIST



SENIOR QUOTE
"ARE YOU AN ELECTRIC IMPULSE? BECAUSE YOU DO BE MAKING MY HEART BEAT :)"
"HAHA, SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
OBVIOUSLY, THE STRESS! IT WAS ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL CRYING EVERY NIGHT! AND OH! THE DREAD OF ONLINE CLASSES. THE ASTOUNDING DEADLINES AND NO SLEEP THAT GAVE ME EYEBAGS CHANEL CONCEALERS COULDN'T HIDE!

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
ON A SERIOUS NOTE, MY NURTURING AND ENCOURAGING TEACHERS. I ABSOLUTELY ADORE THEIR PASSION FOR TURNING THEIR STUDENTS INTO THE BEST THEY CAN BE.

Sania
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE BUSINESSWOMAN

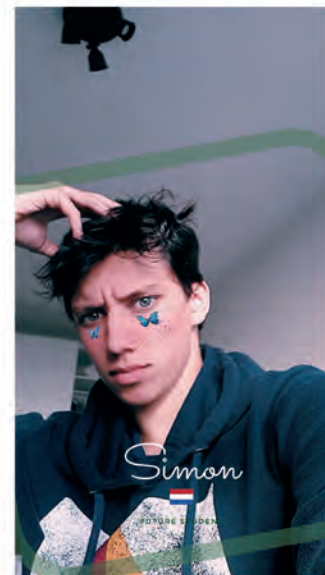


SENIOR QUOTE
"IF I CAN'T ADMIT ALL MY LOSSES THEN I CAN'T CLAIM ALL MY WINS."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?:
MY FRIENDS

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
BLOCK 77, THE BOYS, PLAYING FOOTBALL, CHILLING IN THE FLEX ROOM, AND GETTING SOMETHING TO EAT AFTER SCHOOL.

Sebastian
CLASS OF 2021
FUTURE ECONOMIST



SENIOR QUOTE
"I WISH THERE WAS A WAY TO KNOW YOU WERE IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS BEFORE YOU ACTUALLY LEFT THEM"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
WHEN IT ENDS...

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE FRIENDS, THE GOOD VIBES, THE POSITIVITY.

Simon
CLASS OF
2021

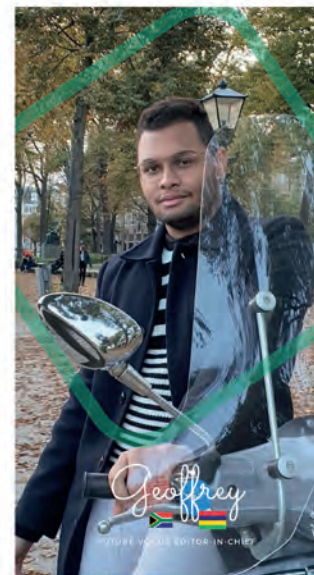


SENIOR QUOTE
"YESTERDAY'S EYELINER CAN BE TODAY'S SMOKEY EYE IF YOU PLAY IT RIGHT."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
HONESTLY, I JUST LOVED THE OVERALL EXPERIENCE. I ESPECIALLY LOVED THE CONSTANT PRESSURE OF SUBMISSIONS AND THE DEADLINES AND THE ENORMOUS WORKLOAD. NO NO, IN ALL SERIOUSNESS, I GENUINELY LEARNED A LOT OF NEW SKILLS FROM THIS COURSE. I'M JUST HOPING THAT MY DUMBASS WILL BE ABLE TO USE THEM SOMEHOW :)

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE PEOPLE!! THE PEOPLE!! THE PEOPLE!! I CANNOT EXPRESS HOW MUCH I AM GOING TO MISS THE WONDERFUL COMMUNITY AT RISS, IN THE HALLWAYS, IN THE CLASSROOMS, OH AND DEFINITELY IN THE CANTEEN. I HAVE FORMED SOME REALLY SPECIAL BONDS WITH SOME REALLY SPECIAL FRIENDS.

Sneha
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"I SPEAK 5 LANGUAGES, MATHS IS NOT ONE OF THEM!"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
MR MOTTRAM ANECDOTES.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
MRS MARSINAS INSIGHTFUL AND INSPIRING WORDS OF WISDOM, AND HER FOOD OF COURSE. MS CHRISTOFFELS HUMOUR! OR RUNNING AWAY FROM HER! THE AMAZING OPPORTUNITY'S THAT I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BE PART OF IS THIS SCHOOL!

Geoffrey
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"THIS WAS EASY"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
FLEX ROOM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
77

Tom
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"OH, WHERE ARE WE? WHY IS THERE A URINAL?"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
KATERINA

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
HALIMA THE CANTEEN LADY AND THE COUCHES IN THE ORC

Yasmim
CLASS OF
2021

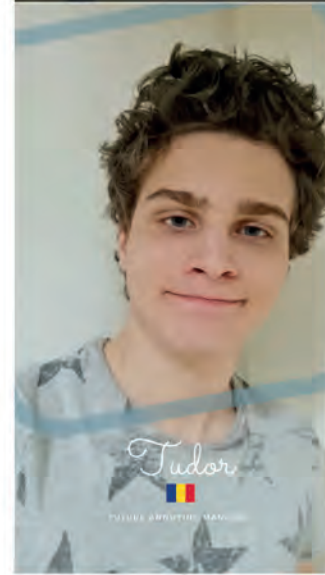


SENIOR QUOTE
"IM DEISLEIXE"

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
FLEX ROOM

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
77

Sijbe
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"LISTEN, SMILE, AGREE AND THEN DO WHATEVER YOU WERE GOING TO DO ANYWAY"
- ROBERT DOWNEY JR.

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
BETWEEN HAVING A BARBECUE EVERY WEEK OR MELTING PLASTIC CUPS TRYING TO MAKE HOT CHOCOLATE. AS LONG AS I WAS WITH MY FRIENDS IT WAS THE BEST.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
THE DUE DATES, AS ALWAYS

Tudor
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"YOU HAVE BRAINS IN YOUR HEAD. YOU HAVE FEET IN YOUR SHOES. YOU CAN STEER YOURSELF ANY DIRECTION YOU CHOOSE. YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, AND YOU KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW, AND YOU ARE THE ONE WHO'LL DECIDE WHERE TO GO..."
- DR. SUESS

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
DEFINITELY HANDING IN MY EE AND IA'S AND FINALLY BEING DONE WITH THEM :P

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
BEING ABLE TO TALK TO MY FRIENDS IN THE BREAKS; MY TEACHERS :)

Eniek
CLASS OF
2021



SENIOR QUOTE
"RELAX WELL AS YOU STUDY WELL. TAKE REST WELL AND YOU WORK WELL."

FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUR LAST YEAR(S) IN THE IBDP?
I MADE A LOT OF FRIENDS. THE GROUP 4 PROJECT WAS ENTERTAINING SINCE IT MADE ME WANT TO BECOME CREATIVE.

THE THING I AM GOING TO MISS THE MOST ABOUT RISS:
CHATTING MY FRIENDS.

Yuto
CLASS OF
2021

As I promised,
after the exams
the world is
yours!

Enjoy your
freedom!

IRMA WESTHEIM | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: G12 B

“There is much promise in the circumstance that so many people have heads”

Though all IB graduating classes resemble one another in some way, specific year groups do nestle themselves in the fabric of a school and its teachers with unique memories. I am happy to say that the 2021 graduating class will not be solely remembered for the Corona pandemic and the debacle about the potential exam routes, but also for the stoic and positive ways they dealt with the unexpected.

The students of this year's cohort have been kind, supportive and dependable. I was really touched by the open and honest messages about their experiences of their time with us at RISS on the last day of school. Though this graduating class missed out on many of the special aspects which make being student extra special – such as the school trip, gala and in-person meetings – they managed to create moments amongst themselves to celebrate life, learning and to “enjoy their youth” such as we have as our school mission. And just to include some IB speak: when I look at our students, I really do see caring young people who show intercultural understanding and who recognise and respect that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

The one ritual our students did get to experience this past year, was the full IB exam. I enjoyed being part of this academic milestone in all our students' lives – and thank you for making it so easy for me! My favourite sentence from the exam announcement is always the following one: “Do you have everything you need for the exams?” Of course they mean stationery, but I always think it refers to many other things as well. What you do have (and have had) is a whole team of teachers and parents who are invested in you, believe in you and are waiting to see what amazing things you will do in the future. Definitely not the things we expect, but amazing and impressive new things, nonetheless.

Miroslav Holub wrote a poem called A Boy's Head in which he marvels at all the creative and unusual things in a boy's head. And he ends with this wonderful stanza: “There is much promise/in the circumstance/that so many people have heads”.

I believe there is much promise for you as individuals and us as your community in the fact that you have heads and especially such kind and caring hearts. Please keep in touch with the school and let us know the journeys you are embarking on in life.

Ms Lani du Plessis

I am looking forward to celebrating your graduation with you!



Ready to be challenged – not with a ‘?’ but with a ‘!’

SOME OF OUR *Students'*



Quotes...

"If pineapples could talk, what kind of accent do you think they would have?"

Joshua

"It's such a lovely day out, I can't wait to go home and sleep"

Yasmim

"I wasn't running, I was falling in a controlled manner"

Kirsty

"They have achieved most of these achievements"

Emma S in her EE

"Why did no one tell me it's smart to actually read your sources and not just the first 10 pages?"

Glo

"Well Sir, you didn't specify the time zone for the 16th of October so I could actually send it in 9 hours if I were to say that I live in Los Angeles"

Bob

"Sir, I've tested positive for always having a good time"

Tim



"Please remember that during the exam we won't have our laptops, so it will have to come from our head"

Bob

*"Europe just looks like one big country on this map"-
Ms. Cook , " It is"*

Eric

"On weekdays, Tuesdays and Thursdays"

Luuk

*" Maybe if I'm nice to the google doc, it'll write my essay
for me"*

Joshua



*"A calculator to a Dutch exam?"
"You gotta calculate the vocabulary"*

Glo

"Math is not my first language"

Geoffrey

"I don't eat, I photosynthesize"

Joshua

Teachers' Comments:

■ DR GILBERT-SÁEZ | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: PASTORAL

I am very proud of our Grade 12 students. They have been through a great deal; a pandemic and a lockdown process. Their resilience, commitment and passion for their education is commendable. My full appreciation and recognition goes to them all and I wish them all the very best now and in the future.

■ CHARLINE LUGTIGHEID | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: COMMUNICATION AND ADMISSION OFFICER

I met a lot of you when I started at RISS and you were still in Grade 10, ruling the hallways of the Junior Campus. Then I got to know more of you on the Ski Trip in Grade 11. In group 'Zero', we had a lot of hot chocolates with the most amazing views, looked forward to the Après Ski and did a lot of 'pizza' in between. It was a fantastic trip, mostly because you were an amazing group. I wish you a lot of moments like those we had on those mountains, where falling only meant that you could try again. And if you ever have the same feeling that you had standing on top of that red hill in the middle of a snow storm on your second day, just remember: you survived, and on the third day you did it all again.



*Teachers always
want to have the
last word...*

■ LYNN LIBERT | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: 12E TUTOR / ENGLISH B

I have taught some of you since you were in Foundation and IGCSE. I am so proud of all of you and I cannot wait to find out how you all have excelled in becoming fantastic human beings. Remember to follow your passions and to always be kind. Success isn't measured by how much money you make, but by how well you treat others. Be the person that people remember for being the nicest person in the room, for you will actually be the richest.

■ JAUN-MARI MORAAL | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: MATH A&I SL

Dear students, I will always remember you as the fun group! You were always full of jokes and were always able to lift one's spirit with a simple joke or funny question. Keep this spirit, as looking at the bright side of life will take you far.

■ SNEHA VARTAK MHATRE | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: BIOLOGY

I would like to take this opportunity to say – Thank You!! Thank you for being strong! Thank you for being resilient! Thank you for being the ones who inspired me throughout this year to stay calm and carry on! The only advice I can offer you is to continue to be the good humans you are. Be a good partner, a good friend, a good soul who is honest, trustworthy, and responsible. Be your own sunshine, work hard, and make yourself feel worthy. Best Wishes!

■ MARCO DESSI | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE

The proudest moment of these two years together was seeing the amount of 'To what extent' questions that you included in your TOK Oral Presentations. I hope that's your main takeaway from TOK in the years to come.

■ OLIVER SHEARMAN | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: PHYSICS

Do what is right, Do what is in front of you, but do not necessarily do what is right in front of you! Seriously though... I have been so proud to teach you physics and provide what little bits of life advice I could impart on you. It has been truly an honour to be a physics teacher to so many incredible students and I look forward to hearing where you end up in the future.

■ RAFAEL MORENO | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: 12E TUTOR / SPANISH B

To my dear grade 12D tutees, I apologise for torturing you with the assessment calendar EVERY TUTORIAL. One day, in many years, when our paths cross again, I will remind you that you have to write more CAS reflections. To my amazing Spanish B students: Que el sufrimiento interno del artista guíe vuestras vidas.

■ **JANNEKE SCHELLEKENS / RAFAEL MORENO | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: SPANISH AB INITIO**

Me gustan las flores

■ **TIM MOTTRAM | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: 12C TUTOR / TOK & ENGLISH**

While you might sometimes feel akin to the feeble and despised hobgoblin, you are at heart all mighty wizards standing aloft the highest peaks, as lightning crackles above you with elemental fury. Remember my words. Goodness is a choice. You don't have to be good at everything. In the end, you decide what matters: cast the rest aside. The path to contentment is service and growth. Most of all... be kind to yourself and all beings.

■ **PAUL ALBERTS | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: ITGS**

I want to give a shout out to the graduating students who have been gracious towards me stepping in to teach them ITGS. It's no secret these students had a turbulent ITGS programme, with three different teachers in two years. Through it all, they were engaging, understanding, challenging in (most of) the right ways, and an absolute thrill to teach. I always looked forward to those lessons despite being nervous, certainly at the beginning of the takeover. I am grateful to have taught them and would not have minded more time to learn together. Thank you Grade 12 ITGS HL/SL.

■ **KENNETH MULLER | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: 11D TUTOR / ENGLISH & HISTORY**

Your last year at RISS has been my first year here. Starting a new teaching job can be just as daunting as starting at a new school as a high-school student, but thanks to you, my trepidations were in vain. You have consistently made me feel welcome, supported and appreciated... I have never worked in a school at which I received so many 'Thank you, Sir's at the end of classes and 'Hello, Sir's in corridors, and I am not sure you realise the impact that your kindness and courtesy has on others. I truly believe that we do reap what we sow (part of the reason I believe so whole-heartedly in the CAS Programme). Accordingly, I can say with certainty that you will enjoy magical successes in life. Continue to work hard, and make enjoying your youth a priority. Do good things for yourselves and for others whenever you can.

■ **NURIA PRIEGO GARCIA | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: MATHS AA SL**

I wish you all the best in your new adventure, guys! It was a pleasure to teach you. Some of you have been in my class since Grade 7, others had to suffer me in the IGCSE Core class (the best one!) and I will always remember the school trip that I enjoyed with you in grade 9. During the IB, I joined you a little bit later, but we have learnt a lot together, including how to deal with a global pandemic! I will miss you all!! And remember: Crying is not an option!! There is always a solution for every problem!!

■ **ANOUK VAN CROESDIJK | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: DUTCH B**

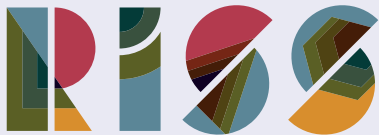
Dag zonnestraaltjes, Het is een gek idee dat jullie nu klaar zijn op de RISS. Ik ga jullie missen! Iedere les weer wisten jullie me te verrassen. Misschien heb ik van jullie nog wel meer geleerd dan jullie van mij. Ik wens jullie voor nu een stralende zomer toe en voor daarna een succesvolle studiecarière. Het beste!

■ **MS VAN ROOIJ | TUTOR GROUP / SUBJECT: DUTCH A LANG&LIT**

Bedankt voor al jullie energie, gezelligheid, gesprekken en openheid in onze lessen Nederlands. Blijf lezen! Zoals eerder gezegd: daar word je alleen maar leuker, slimmer, socialer en knapper van! Ik wens jullie het allerbeste toe en wees geen vreemde!

■ **YVONNE RICKETTS | TUTOR GROUP/SUBJECT: ENGLISH/ YOUTH THEATRE / RISSUE**

To my Lang Lit class: I met you all in G11 when I started at RISS and feel like we have been on quite a journey together, through lockdown and beyond! Thank you for the memories, the laughs along the way and for all the effort put in when it really mattered! I will miss you as a group and wish you all the best for the bright futures you have ahead of you. For those whom I had the pleasure of working with in our Youth Theatre, I enjoyed your passion for Drama and the fun rehearsals we had, even if we couldn't share our final work. And finally, for the RISSUE Team – thank you for getting the magazine off the ground – your professionalism and dedication is the reason that the magazine has been such a success within the school and community! Good luck to all of you, wherever your future takes you!



**ROTTERDAM
INTERNATIONAL
SECONDARY
SCHOOL**



Junior Campus

Bentinecklaan 294
3039 KK Rotterdam, Netherlands

Senior Campus

Schimmelpenninckstraat 23
3039 KS Rotterdam, Netherlands

Phone: +31 (0) 10 890 7744

Fax: +31 (0) 10 890 7755

Email: admin.riss@wolfert.nl

RISSUE Nr. 4 2021