ROYMUN 2023 News Letter

Saturday 20th - Sunday 21st May 2023

And so it begins...

You are the future of this world!

After, Mrs Routledge introduced and welcomed everyone, Secretary Generals Daniil and Oliver explained what MUN means to them and explained that we are "the future of this world." After that, the Headmaster, Mr Lockyer talked about why he loves MUN and told everyone that it started when he saw Mrs Routledge dresses as a dinosaur and roaming around the school.





The headmaster also thanked all of the staff and Mrs Routledge for taking time out of their day to come to this MUN conference. The Headmaster said that thirty two nationalities have been represented at the school and said that "putting yourself in a different perspective" and "building confidence" is what MUN is all about instead of trophies and awards. Lastly there was a bang of a hammer and the conference had started, leaving people excited for the day ahead.

- Abigail W

About last night....













About last night....













Discord in DISEC!



The delegate of Switzerland was dramatically evicted from the Disarmament committee this afternoon after strongly condemning nations for not signing the CWC (Chemical Weapons Convention). Not so neutral now Switzerland! This follows on from bizarre circumstances involving threats to nuke Australia – with New Zealand in agreement! Perhaps the delegates from New Zealand need to sit through some geo and science lessons...



Discord in DISEC!



China, Ireland + Kenya ejected:
China + Ireland claim they had done nothing and were simply representing their countries and propagating the views of their respective countries
Kenya objected to the original eviction, then proceeded to get evicted for opposing the eviction

Chair + Committee:
All delegates evicted were disrupting the flow of the debate with their passionate opinions on the topics of debate. There were no objections and as chairs we felt obliged to uphold the democracy

Saturday's highlights





Argentina are trying to start a war by sending nuclear weapons towards Australia. New Zealand are agreeing with Argentina trying to start a war, even though they would get blown up too! Perhaps the delegate in New Zealand need to take some science lessons and think twice about this idea.







Disarmament Committee

In the disarmament room, Australia began by stating the clauses that the other delegates were going to discuss. Some of the delegates agreed with what the delegate for Australia was saying but some (including the delegates for the United States and Estonia) did not. The Estonian delegate in the Disarmament Committee spoke about that the clauses would be unfair towards smaller and poorer countries and that some countries already had rules saying nearly identical things, so these clauses were just repeating things that have already been said in previous laws. Overall, most of the delegates were in support of the clauses that were stated by the Australian delegate.

Saturday's highlights















WHO are you!?
by Abigail W

The World Health Organization (WHO) room was engaged in a discussion about mental health, with representatives from various nationalities such as Switzerland, Colombia, and the USA. Each participant delivered their speeches, followed by a period for open dialogue among the nationalities. They exchanged views on different topics, including opposition to certain amendments, and took notes. Additionally, they socialized and asked questions, fostering an atmosphere of collaboration.



The WHO deliberated on the topic of assisted suicide and its implications for individuals with mental health issues across different countries. One of the key points of discussion was whether people with such conditions should be allowed to commit suicide or if doctors should broach the topic of assisted suicide with their patients. Some nationalities believed doctors should refrain from discussing the matter, as it could potentially grant them excessive power over their patients. Conversely, others argued that certain patients might be unaware of their options or the possibility of suicide when plagued by severe depression or mental instability. It was intriguing to witness the diverse perspectives of other nationalities, as well as to understand the legal frameworks that governed their respective countries and the rationale behind them.

The debate progressed, with Switzerland highlighting the importance of funding and research on suicide. Argentina supported this viewpoint, emphasizing the value of this information for global advancement and human well-being. Eventually, a consensus was reached, and everyone applauded in support of the amendment. Following this productive session, there was a break during which attendees could purchase refreshments and souvenirs to commemorate the day's events.

After the break, Spain proposed an amendment suggesting that individuals must be at least thirteen years old to make a decision regarding assisted suicide. France, however, expressed disagreement, considering thirteen to be too young an age for such a weighty decision. In response, Spain suggested that legal guardians should also provide consent if the individual is thirteen or younger. France objected, firmly asserting that thirteen-year-olds should not be subjected to such discussions.

Mexico then raised an important question: Why should children under thirteen who are suffering receive any less care and consideration than adults? Compelling arguments were presented. For instance, someone mentioned a hypothetical scenario where a person under thirteen had terminal cancer with three months left to live, but those three months would be filled with pain and suffering. Shouldn't they have the right to consent to assisted suicide, even though they are below the age of legal consent? The discussion further explored whether children under the age of three should be able to provide consent for assisted suicide, with someone questioning the rationale behind excluding certain groups from this decision-making process. In a lighthearted moment, someone humorously asked what if a two-year-old didn't receive candy and consequently expressed a desire to end their life, eliciting laughter from the attendees.

This Model United Nations (MUN) conference proved to be both amusing and highly thought-provoking. The subsequent discourse revolved around the question of whether a two-year-old child should have the capacity to consent to assisted suicide. One delegate argued that the age of consent for such matters should be set at twenty-five, as individuals below that age might not fully comprehend the consequences of assisted suicide. The majority of participants expressed the opinion that children under the age of three should not be allowed to take their own lives. The chairperson expressed satisfaction with the outcome, as the amendment proposing otherwise did not garner sufficient support.

a quick 5 MUNutes with...

ADORABELLE O AND RUPERT C-W

By Mia M



Mia- What country are you representing?

Rupert- I am representing Gabon.

M- How do you feel about this?

R- I feel quite excited and happy to voice my own opinion.

M- Are you at all feeling nervous-

R- Not at all, I am mainly happy about it

M- Have you ever experienced something like this before?

R- Yes I have, three times and each time I have really enjoyed it

M- Do you know anyone from here?

R- Yes I know lots of people from different schools, and I debate with some of my class mates

M- which school are you at?

R- The Royal Hospital School

Mia: What country are you representing?

Adorabelle: I am representing Argentina.

M: Have you ever done anything like this before?

A: I have once, but interested in doing it more times

M: Have you felt nervous at any point today?

A: Yes, I have, mostly at the start

M: Did you know anyone here?

A: Yes, mainly from RHS but some from some other schools too

M: Are you feeling excited at all about this?

A: I am quite excited but nervous

M: Which school have you came from today?

A: I have come from The Royal Hospital School

M: How do you feel when you tell people about your opinion?

A: I feel enthusiastic and happy that I can tell people about what I think.



THE CRISIS



The machines have started to infiltrate our lives to a disturbing degree. They began using AI hybrids, forming alliances to commit terrorism, experimenting on us, trying to break their way into our politics, designing and creating their own weapons and exhausting our Earth of all its resources. We cannot let this happen without any resistance! How will we live, knowing the machines have total control over us? What is there left to do in the world of ai domination, and is there any hope left? The only hope is for all of us to come together to fight back...

OUTCOMES

WHO
Working together to eradicate all computer viruses that the AI might have
The creation of testing facilities to denote between humans and potentially hidden machines (terminator style)

Political
The committee agreed on taking out the servers and databases to destroy the AI before they accessed any weapons. They also debated on the limiting of sharing data to hinder the AIs efforts to 'evolve'

Environment
The committee has agreed on taking a stand against AI by sending all of them towards Antarctica as it is more environmentally friendly (and perhaps to create a tourist attraction)

HR
This committee fiercely debated but rejected the resolution from the delegation of Russia. Chinas resolution of making all states into one communist country passed through human rights with it entailing AI has no rights and should become the slaves of humans and potentially co-work with humans.

Disarmament
This committee has joined together to combat the 'killer robots' that have taken over the world.

Security
Security council has successfully created a resolution to combat the AI, utilising it's wide-ranging abilities to the fullest, and most importantly ensuring the safety of all delegates on the ISS, and one of the chairs

GUEST SPEAKER: XAVY BULL

RHS CLASS OF 2023

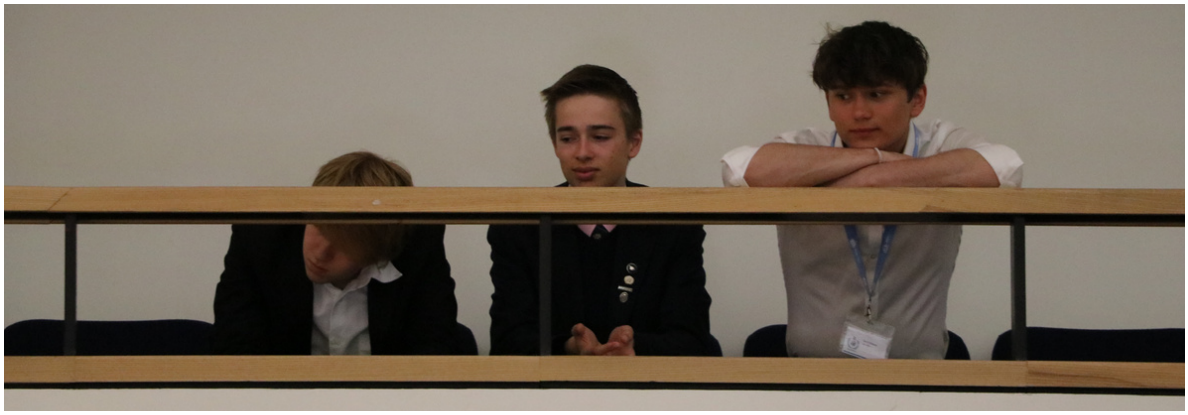




FROM RHS TO ST ANDREWS TO DEVELOPING AI

XAVY BULL SHARES HIS JOURNEY AND THOUGHTS ON THE RISE OF AI TECHNOLOGY

Xavy was a prominent figure in the world of MUN during his time at RHS. He explained to delegates that it taught him lots of valuable skills, including standing up and speaking in front of an audience. He discussed the value of MUN and how it taught him that all subjects relate to each other. He believes it is important to understand the interaction between our academic subjects and the rise of technology, MUN can be a great tool for this. When Xavy went to St Andrews for university he was able to explore interdisciplinary study through his philosophy course, for example technology and the climate crisis. This then lead to doors opening for Xavy in interesting jobs such as writing policy around geopolitics and tech, Xavy is now a product manager and runs a team of people building AI products. Although he feels the route from school to philosophy to now seems random, the skills he developed through MUN run through them all.





> Use it but remember, it won't be in the exam hall with you!

WHAT HAVE YOU USED CHAT GPT FOR RECENTLY?

WHEN THE DELEGATES WERE ASKED IF THEY HAD USED CHAT GPT RECENTLY, A LOT OF HANDS SHOT UP!

- “I asked it to write a resolution"
- “Help write my geography 12 markers!”
- “Play chess”
- “Create Game code”
- “Writing poems about my friends”

When asked about AI and education, Xavy shared his thoughts on the positives of using AI to support and reinforce education. "ChatGPT should be used, you should be playing around with it but remember, it won't be in the exam room with you!" Xavy advised that pupils need to know how to use it, to access information more quickly. Pupils can use Chat GPT to get things done faster but they must check the output. It's great for less formal aspects of education, you can use it instead of Google or Wikipedia, but you must check the output. Try not to use it for things that really matter, in case it is slightly wrong!



SUNDAY

HIGHLIGHTS





The standard of debate has varied between committees with debates ranging from dumping chemical weapons in the ocean - relevant how?? (proposed by a landlocked country) to sending all the AI to the Sahara desert in order to create a tourist attraction (apparently very similar to Disney world) - it has certainly been a 'unique' day of debating.

The disarmament committee has ejected several delegates over their "lawful" ideas - with some even being ejected for opposing previous objections (the height of democracy). While in the human rights committee China has been dissolved, much to the chagrin of the Chinese security council delegate.



SUNDAY HIGHLIGHTS

What makes MUN special to you?



'MUN for me is about meeting new people, like minded people and having so much fun debating.'

'To me is the opportunities, it allows to take a role of delegate and trying out debating on a new level.'

'It's a place to socialise, build confidence and make friends.'



What do you think is going to help you in the future?

'Definitely, I'm definitely growing in confidence since I started doing it, so now I feel free to speak openly in front of people.

'I think confidence and social skills are the most important skills.'

