

Dr. Fritz-Ellis Brings Change to Counseling

By HANNAH SIMMONS '17 and
ELLA CAPEEN '17

With the recent renovation of the Schoolhouse, a surplus of changes has been made to the counseling office. There is a new office space for its members, located where the mailroom used to be.

The biggest change, however, has been Dr. Fritz-Ellis's arrival on the Circle. After settling into Groton School and the new space, Dr. Fritz-Ellis has taken the time to think and act upon new policies. She hopes that their implementation will work well with both the students and the new space.

The new counseling office is a small, yet cozy and inviting space. As Dr. Fritz-Ellis put it, "the new space is wonderful—comfortable and aesthetically pleasing." While her office has its own private space, it opens into a common space equipped with four arm chairs and a cluster of academic-support offices. By the end of the year, Dr. Fritz-Ellis hopes to switch out the arm chairs with couches in order to create a comfortable, quiet study space isolated from the rest of the busy Schoolhouse, for any students who wish to stop by to complete work or simply to relax.

In addition, Dr. Fritz-Ellis plans on decorating one of the unoccupied rooms in the same common space with happy lights by January. A happy light emits special UV rays that mimic those of the sun. During the dark and cold winter months, it is easy to feel more lethargic and depressed due to a lack of exposure to the sun. Although many people may think that this is simply an inherent characteristic of winter, oftentimes a change in mood is connected to a change in the weather. This phenomenon is called Seasonal Affective Disorder.

With the installation of hap-

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FIFTEEN YEARS of SERVICE



Katherine Bradley Leaves to Head Dana Hall School

By VICTOR LIU '17

In the 2016 to 2017 school year, Ms. Bradley, after spending fifteen years as a member of Groton School's faculty, will begin her tenure as the headmaster of Dana Hall School in Wellesley, Massachusetts. On October 27, the entire school—students, faculty members, and trustees—gathered in the Sackett Forum during conference for Mr. Maquibela's announcement of this major news. Ms. Bradley's recent appointment marks the second consecutive year—and the thirty-fourth time ever—that a Groton School faculty member has been selected to head another school.

In 2001, Ms. Bradley joined Groton's faculty as a classics teacher. She had hailed from Michigan, where she attended college and graduate school, as well as taught for eight years at the Greenhills School in Ann Arbor.

Ms. Bradley has made important contributions to not only the School's classics curriculum but also the way in which classics are taught beyond the gates of Groton. On the Circle, she has taught all levels of Latin and Greek. Three years after the start of her Groton career, Ms. Bradley was appointed the Head of the Classics Department, a position that she would hold until becoming the As-

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Shootings in San Bernardino

By MILLIE KIM '17

A mass or minor shooting happens about every two weeks in the United States. The recent San Bernardino shooting marked the country's 353rd this year alone and was the biggest mass shooting since Sandy Hook, wounding 21 and killing 14 (USA Today). Such shootings not only affect the local community but also the entire nation, even the community at Groton.

The shooting occurred in the early morning of December 2nd at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, CA. At the time of the shooting, approximately eighty employees of the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health were attending a holiday event in the Conference Center. The two assailants, Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, identified as a married couple, were in combat gear when they entered the building and fired 65 to 75 rounds with their assault rifles.

According to a police official interviewed by the New York Times, Farook was a county health inspector and had been at the holiday event earlier. He had left early and returned at around 11am—armed and with his wife, about to endanger the lives of 550 employees and residents of the regional center. The suspects escaped in a black S.U.V., according to witnesses, but were soon surrounded by police vehicles not far from the shooting site. The assailants were killed in a gunfight with heavily armed police (New York Times).

The attack had been thoroughly planned. The F.B.I. acquired video evidence that the couple had practiced at shooting ranges in Los Angeles, as recently as days before the attack (New York Times). According to law-enforcement officers, Farook obtained the two AR-15s used in the attack from Enrique Marquez, who

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UNFAIR FAIRNESS



Hannotations

A Column by
Hanna Kim '17

I instantly knew why all the boys had wanted her to come sit at our table. Her hair was thick and wavy, cascading down to her waist like a fountain of chocolate-infused sewer water. Her lips were full and red, probably blood from the undercooked hamburger patty in her hands. The light from the window glinted off her eyes, which were the color of a junkyard (or gold, if you were feeling optimistic that day).

She smiled, revealing teeth as perfect as my grandmother's dentures, and batted her long, spidery eyelashes.

"Hello," she said in a sultry voice.

Wow, she even had the voice. I could almost smell her attractiveness.

I was brushed aside—or roughly manhandled—to make room for her on the bench. Kevin asked if she wanted a sip of his drink, and Nick asked if she wanted an ice cream, all of which she declined with a sweet laugh. The other Nick got up to close a blind so that she wouldn't have to squint, or so that everyone could appreciate her eyes better. Daniel picked off an imaginary piece of dust from her tight, white t-shirt (he must have perfect vision to spot dust on a white shirt).

Conversation was lively, hormones were abundant, hair

was brushed back, shirts were straightened, diamond rings were pulled—no, it didn't go that far, but from the next table over, where I had been strategically placed, it did seem like a marriage proposal was imminent. I sulkily stared at the napkin holder until she left amidst a chorus of cheery farewells.

After she was gone, everyone (male, of course) was silent, trying to preserve her lovely image in his mind. Someone, probably Mike, sighed like a lovesick stable boy. I stalked back to my original seat.

"Oh hey, Hanna," said Mike. "Where have you been?"

Life must be so easy for Jane (a slightly plain name, but she pulled it off). Everywhere she went, she probably received free drinks, free clothes, free favors. A flick of that hair and a bat of those eyelashes were probably enough. She could probably bring a smile to even the surliest man's face, and coax even the most stubborn parking lot manager.

We are supposed to hate people like her, just like I did when Mike had the nerve to ask me where I had been. We are expected to whisper sinisterly behind her back when Matthew uses his honey-lathered voice, the one he never uses when talking to us. We would probably shoot daggers from our eyes when our boyfriends offer her a ride while we are fuming in the back seat. People like her are leeches, parasites, barnacles.

As much as appearance is a blessing, however, it is also a source of stereotypes. The time-

old "stupid blonde" stereotype exists even to this day.

But the blonde stereotype seems slightly self-contradictory. Blonde hair, despite its connotations, has been a much-desired trait for centuries, even millennia. In the time of Proto-Indo-Europeans, blonde hair was associated with the worship of a dawn goddess. In Ancient Rome, blonde German captives were taken to have their hair chopped off so that it could be made into wigs for female aristocrats. The Aryan race once flaunted blonde hair and blue eyes as "superior." Barbie dolls, Rapunzel, Cinderella, and Goldilocks all have blonde hair.

And so a strange dichotomy is created: we should want to be blonde, because it is the superior hair color, but blondes are all dumb. This is a sad example of the way humans compensate for jealousy. We have always scapegoated those who have it better than we do.

Asians are often looked down upon because they are automatically assumed smarter. Jews have been discriminated against time and time again because a large proportion of them were more affluent and successful in many professional fields. "Rich" sometimes becomes synonymous with "greedy" and "ungrateful" because they seem to take their wealth for granted.

We hate to feel inferior. We like to be better than the person next to us in at least one way. People probably watch Jane like hawks, waiting for her to make the slightest mistake so

that they can call her out on it. Does she have lower test scores? Is she in fewer varsity sports teams? Is she mean? Is she less musical? Does she have a terrible skin disease? Does she have disgusting table manners? Would she cry if One Direction split up for good?

If even just one of these answers can be answered in the affirmative, Jane is instantly more likeable because even though she is beautiful, she is dumber/less athletic/meaner/etc. than me, and pity is a more accessible emotion than hatred.

I often hear people say, "I want to hate her, but I can't, because it's not like she's mean or anything" or "he's smart, but he plays, like, zero sports." When a girl is pretty, it seems that she is definitely mean by default, and when a guy is smart, he has to be only smart so that the athletes can feel better about themselves. Why can't we just be congratulatory and not jealous?

MAYBE SHE'S BORN WITH IT



CARTOON BY A. KONG '17

Appearance is a slightly different case, because it's not something we can control; however, we can't hate someone because they are beautiful, nor can we hate someone for something they have worked hard to achieve, like intelligence. I shouldn't have been so angry at Jane, because her attractiveness is not her fault. I shouldn't have hoped that she would have an ugly voice. She probably has enough people digging for her flaws.

Jealousy, in its most innocent form, is not so bad: it's just wanting something I don't have. But jealousy of appearance is wanting something I can never get, and maybe we should all accept that you can't always get what you want. It's not fair, but no one ever said it would be. There's no use in trying to feel better than the Jane in your life, because you both probably are so wonderfully different that comparison is simply impossible.

Behind The Trigger Finger

By KEVIN XIAO '18

In light of the recent string of mass shootings, there has been increased speculation on why such killings occur. Politicians have tied the increase in mass shootings over recent years to lax gun regulation, lack of background checks, terrorism, and even coincidence. Yet, as more and more shootings appear on the news and more and more solutions are put onto the table, it seems as if the problem is only getting worse. So it is worth asking: what prompts a killer to commit such an evil deed?

In some cases, the mass shooters have personal incentives. In San Bernardino, the motivation was likely terrorism. In Colorado Springs, the objective was to express disagreement with Planned Parenthood. Yet, undoubtedly, there have been instances in which killers do not obtain any obvious benefit from their spree. In

acts of violence, these killers are usually meticulous planners, lacking the impulsiveness usually attributed to them. Their goal, therefore, is to kill as many people as possible with no plan of escape other than to go out in a blaze of glorious destruction.

With some knowledge on the typical mass shooter, criminologists have formed theories about why any person can begin to plan such a horrendous deed of violence. One of the most compelling theories is that mass shooters are lonely and ignored, often failing in multiple aspects of life. And with the amount of media coverage on killers, dead shooters have begun to develop into twisted, infamous celebrities. James L. Knoll IV, the director of forensic psychiatry at New York's Upstate Medical University, explains that these "massacre killers [become] 'collectors of injustice' who nurture their wounded narcissism." Feeling wronged, they spend their time obsessively

"Mass shooters want to be remembered."

fact, many mass shootings have ended with the suicide or death of the killer. And again we must ask—why?

To begin understanding this incredibly complex situation, criminologists examine the typical mass murderer. Often, killers are heavily armed young men in large crowds of people. As Paul E. Mullen, former director of the Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health puts it, most shootings are "program[s] for murder and suicide." Survivors of shootings have described the killers as cold, calculated, and determined during the attack. Defying the traits of typical

occupied with their fantasies of glory and heroism in which they combat the injustice directed at themselves.

Mass shooters want to be remembered. In their anger for perceived injustices - whether it be losing a job, falling behind in school, or feeling disconnected with the world - mass shooters decide to end their lives in unforgettable fashions. With the media's extensive coverage on the personal life of mass shooters and the world's united contempt for their names, killers achieve some inkling of the recognition they feel they deserve.

GUNS PAIR WELL WITH



APPLE PIE AND BALD EAGLES

CARTOON BY A. KONG '17

VOICES OF DISSENT



Posters for Yale protests

FROM THENATION

By ROHAN VARKEY '18

On November 18, 2015, a coalition of Princeton students calling themselves the Black Justice League held a sit-in at President Christopher Eisgruber's office. This sit-in, which lasted 32 hours, was held as a means of improving race relations and bringing light to racial issues on campus. The group refused to leave until some of their demands were met or considered. Firstly they wanted a black student safe space, in which marginalized black students could feel safe to heal and discuss their experiences with other black students who had suffered similar experiences on campus. This petition has been passed by Eisgruber, and has also been emulated by the Latino community, as they are petitioning for their own safe space. The other major petition made by the Black Student League was to remove Woodrow Wilson's name from all buildings on campus. This petition stems from Woodrow Wilson, a prominent Princeton alumnus, having a majorly racist reputation, a side of him that the general public was not aware of. Wilson did not want black students to attend Princeton, allegedly sided with the KKK, and re-segregated formerly integrated businesses—costing a large number of black families their jobs. The Black Justice League stressed the fact that Woodrow Wilson, the famous twenty-eighth president of America, should be honored in other ways around campus, rather than naming buildings after him. The group also demands that Princeton formally recognize Wilson's racist reputation by making a plaque or a web page.

Around this time, similar protests were occurring at colleges all around the country. At Yale, there was an uproar over an email sent by the associate master of a residential college. This email was in response to another email sent to Yale

students, which urged them to be thoughtful about how they were dressed at Halloween—referencing instances of blackface, mock turbans, etc. A residential college assistant master, Erika Christakis, emailed the members of her college that students should feel that their freedom of speech is still being respected, and that students should have the right to dress provocatively, and even offensively. This prompted days of protests, in which students urged Yale to recognize the racial tension present at the university. Yale responded to these protests with an apology from President Peter Salovey in a message to the Yale community.

At Amherst, there was a petition to remove their mascot, Lord Jeffrey "Lord Jeff" Amherst. Lord Jeffrey gave blankets infected with smallpox to the Native Americans as a means to try and decrease their population; Amherst students believe that a historical figure who committed these awful acts should not be the mascot of their college. There was also a petition to the President of Amherst that there be a zero-tolerance policy on racial insensitivity and hate speech. This petition was made because there had been some campus-wide tension over the "Black Lives Matter" movement, in which students had been posting "All Lives Matter" and "Rest in Peace, Free Speech" posters around campus. President Biddy Martin responded to these protests by saying that she was happy that these issues had been brought to her attention, but she didn't think that she as university president would have the power to meet some of their demands.

The Princeton safe space protest is reasonable, but I don't agree with the notion that it should be university-mandated. Students who feel discriminated against should have their own space, in which they can talk and heal with other students who have undergone the same

experiences. In this safe space, only black students would be allowed, which may limit the views that are shared in this space. Students attend college to learn new perspectives, and shutting yourself out from so many viewpoints may serve to hurt rather than to heal you. I think that these safe spaces can be only for black students if, after discussion in these confidential safe spaces, students go out and discuss with other people. I also don't want these safe spaces to be university-mandated. Will the university have to chastise people who go in that aren't of that safe space's race? These would work better if they were just student-run.

Woodrow Wilson had an extensive background in diplomacy, and, since he was an alumnus and a former President of the university, the school of Public Policy was named after him. Wilson may have been a racist, but I don't see how removing his name from the Public Policy school, along with other buildings on campus, would truly help decrease racial tension on campus. I feel that the good Wilson brought to Princeton and to the world outweigh his views.

The Yale protests were too unorganized to really glean what these students wanted from their university. But, they did shed light on important issues at Yale, and for that reason should be marked as successful.

As for Amherst, they should change their mascot. Lord Jeff did commit genocide, and he doesn't have much good going for him. There's no real reason to keep him as their mascot. I think that it is important, however, that Amherst officials do not tread on their students' right to free speech. Punishing the people who put these posters up would be a serious matter, and the university should think hard before formally acting. Would this set a bad precedent all over the country, that an institution can take away some students' right to free speech?

Paris Attacks: Qu'est-ce Qui Vient Ensuite?

By ALY MANJEE '18

The only acceptable measure, after the killing of 129 people in Paris, is military, with the only objective being to crush ISIS and eliminate its stronghold in Syria and Iraq. The barbaric terrorists cannot be allowed any longer to control territory on which they are able to organize, finance and plan their savagery.

Hollande left no doubt that the attacks were "prepared, organized and planned from abroad, with complicity from the inside." ISIS, or one of its affiliates, has also claimed responsibility for the recent downing of a Russian pas-

senger jet, with the loss of 224 lives.

We cannot dismiss ISIS as a regional threat. Its threat is global and ISIS cannot be allowed to breed any longer. Pope Francis declared the Paris attacks "not human." In a way he is right. But history teaches that human beings are capable of great evil.

To defeat ISIS in Syria and Iraq will require NATO forces on the ground. After the long-lasting and inconclusive Western interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is reasonable to suggest that this would be foolish. It is vital to ask whether military action will only win over more recruits for ISIS. Terrorism can never truly be

defeated.

However, we have to resist such arguments.

ISIS is smart and effective. It has a well-run propaganda machine and an ideology compelling dissatisfied Muslim

"The battle will be long."

youth, which has led to a fanatical army. But ISIS is far from insuperable in military terms. Western intelligence has greatly improved over the years. The killing of Mohamed Emwazi (known as Jihadi John), the Islamic State's most

wanted executioner, on November 12 by an Air Strike, demonstrated this.

It is not enough to say, as the Obama Administration has up to now, that ISIS will be defeated. These words lack meaning without a corresponding plan.

Hatred of Muslims seems to be on the rise. The killings in Paris have occurred as thousands of desperate Muslim refugees are pouring into Europe. This is not the time to turn on them. They must be helped, even if extreme caution is needed. They, too are fleeing from ISIS and the violence of President Bashar al-Assad.

The battle will be long. Islam is in a state of civil crisis,

plagued by the regional battle of Sunni and Shia interests. It is tormented by a rapidly growing ideology of anti-Western hatred and Wahhabi fundamentalism. The menace within it can only be defeated from within by the millions of Muslims who are people of peace and are appalled by the Paris Attacks.

Crushing ISIS in Syria and Iraq will not eliminate the jihadist terrorist threat. But passivity is a recipe for certain failure. It is time that we act with conviction and power against the scourge of the Islamic State. Unity can be attained and with it, victory.



The Circle Voice

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After Over a Decade of Service, Ms. Bradley Leaves the Circle

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sistant Head of School in 2011.

In that capacity, Ms. Bradley worked to improve the quality of the courses—especially that of the introductory-level Latin classes—so as to increase students’ interest in the classics. According to current Classics Department Head Scott Giampetruzzi, “a more specific contribution [Ms. Bradley] made involves improving the Latin 1 and Latin 2 courses by implementing greater uniformity across all sections: one textbook across all sections, a clear set of objectives and standards across sections, collaboration across sections on final exams.”

Outside of the Circle, Ms. Bradley has served as a grader of the AP Latin Exam, for which she has prepared Groton students so well over the years.

“In the classroom, Ms. Bradley wielded a powerful combination of perceptiveness and flexibility. She had a keen eye for the challenges that students might encounter and effectively structured her course in such a way that everyone could both understand it and be challenged by it,” remarked Cynthia Liu ’09, who had the privilege of being a member of one of Ms. Bradley’s AP Latin classes.

As Groton’s Assistant Headmaster, Ms. Bradley fulfills, on a daily basis, a myriad of administrative responsibilities. Her areas of expertise range from residential life and regulations to the workings of the Health Center and of various academic, athletic, and counseling departments. For the past four years, Ms.

Bradley has been at the forefront, according to Assistant Dean of Students Libby Petroskey, “of bringing all the offices and departments on this campus that work for the students together.” Bringing unity to what had been a rather “dis-jointed” administration, Ms. Bradley’s efforts have enabled Groton’s faculty members to be part of “a cohesive group of adults who work together to benefit the students.”

While she is grateful to have worked “closely and productively” with so many members of the Groton community, Ms. Bradley has found interacting with her students and advisees especially rewarding. Accordingly, she has sought to maintain regular contact with students despite taking on more responsibilities away from the classroom. Today, she continues to teach Latin, run a dorm, and instill in students strong interests in not only classics and history but also leadership and public service.

Having taught and lived at Groton for over a decade, Ms. Bradley admitted that leaving Groton for Dana Hall was an immensely difficult decision to make. “[W]hile I immediately felt a strong affinity for Dana Hall, I took a few months to decide whether or not I wanted to leave Groton. It’s a big move for my family.”

Ms. Bradley is, however, optimistic about the challenges and opportunities that await her at Dana Hall, where the student body, consisting of fifth to twelfth graders, is both larger

than and different from Groton’s. She is eager to meet and work with the students at the independent, all-girls’ institution.

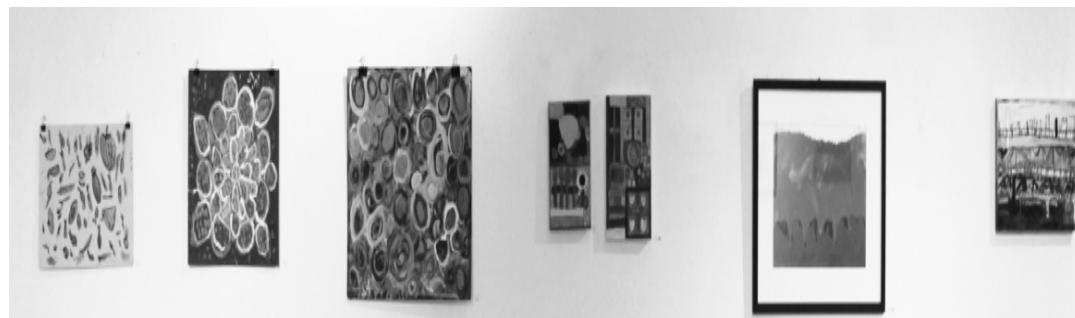
Starting next September, Ms. Bradley will be sorely missed at Groton. From her role as a classics teacher to her administrative work as Assistant Head of School, Ms. Bradley has worked tirelessly to make the School a better place for all.

Her colleague Mr. Giampetruzzi remarked, “Her expertise, professionalism, honesty, good humor, and kindness are just a few of the things I will miss about Ms. Bradley. Indeed, she has been an extraordinary colleague and good friend to me through the years. It will be a big adjustment for me not having the opportunity to seek her advice, guidance and feedback whenever I have questions, and I certainly will miss the great warmth and kindness she offered me and my family through the years.”

In his school-wide announcement back in October, Mr. Maquibela also had kind words to offer to Ms. Bradley, “The loss of Katherine Bradley is bittersweet and a huge gain to Dana Hall. No one has done more to help me acclimate to Groton. A stellar teacher, dedicated dorm head, skilled administrator, and loyal friend to many, Katherine will be dearly missed.”

As a community, we wish Ms. Bradley the best of luck as she transitions into the next stage of her life, and we thank her for her time on the Circle, where she has inspired and touched so many of us.

“I Am an Artist” An Opportunity for the Disabled



“I Am an Artist” exhibit

CV STAFF REPORT

From December 2nd to 17th, the “I Am an Artist” exhibit was displayed in the Christopher Brodigan Gallery. The exhibit featured nineteen various pieces of work created by thirteen different artists. The artists were from Koinonia Center for the Intellectually Disabled in Korea and Open Hearts Art Center in North Carolina.

While their canvases depict starkly different objects in unique artistic styles, from a grayscale image of a bridge to dots of vibrant colors, the artists all possess two things in common; an intellectual disability and a burning passion for art.

Yanni Cho ’16 met most of these artists while conducting her community service project over the summer. Using a

grant from the Parents Independent Network, Yanni had planned to hold art workshops at the Koinonia Center for the Intellectually Disabled, a studio where these artists work. “I was inspired by my intellectually disabled cousin Yoon, who shines the brightest on stage playing the drums,” says Yanni. “Seeing the power of a passion, I wanted to assist those who share my passion in art.”

Rather than holding workshops, however, she ended up using the grant as seed money to set up a “business,” which she named “I Am an Artist.” Yanni says, “When I visited the studio, I realized that I was in no position to instruct these artists. What they needed was not instruction, but empowerment.”

“I Am an Artist” aims to empower. By designing and selling stationery based on the works of these artists as well

M. KIM ’17 FOR THE CIRCLE VOICE

as holding galleries featuring their work, Yanni hopes to create opportunities for others to see these works and recognize these artists. During Parents weekend, Yanni had sold these products in the Dining Hall. Another important aspect of this project is the return of the proceeds from the sales. “I see many with an intellectual disability having to clean, serve in cafes, or work in factories because those are the easiest places people with disabilities can get a job. But these people are artists. That is their job, and selling art is their way of making a living. I want to make that possible for them,” Yanni emphasized.

Art teacher and Brodigan gallery coordinator Ms. Van Gelder added, “A show like this one empowers these artists to use a visual language to share their unique perspective.”

A Makeover for the Counseling Office

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The new counseling office in the basement of the Schoolhouse.

py lights, Dr. Fritz-Ellis hopes to create a space that is scientifically proven to make people feel better. With a complete remake, the new space in the old mail room will be the perfect place for students to relax, study, or get help dealing with any stressors that they may have.

Ultimately, Dr. Fritz-Ellis hopes to get rid of the stigmas that so often surround visiting the counseling office and to make every student comfortable enough to stop by at time. She encourages students to flow in and out of the space, despite the fact that it is a little bit “off the beaten path.”

This drive to make the new counseling space a more public area has one downside: the amount of privacy will slowly decline. While Dr. Fritz-Ellis aims to make the counseling area a place that students visit more often, she recognizes the great benefits and importance of privacy to some people, and plans on installing another counseling office in the old library, near the site of the new health center. The addition of yet another counseling office would create two spaces, both open and welcoming to anyone in the school, but also completely detached from the bustle of the Schoolhouse.

On top of encouraging student participation and visitation in the counseling office, Dr. Fritz-Ellis plans to make changes to the co-curricular program, hopefully shifting it into more of an integrated wellness program. In particular, she is working to incorporate it into all Forms, rather than only Second and Third Forms. Dr. Fritz-Ellis hopes to tailor the program to each individual Form. For example, co-curricular for Second Formers would focus on the transition into Groton at the beginning of the year, whereas Fifth Formers would learn about dealing with stress. Dr. Fritz-Ellis would love to have this change in the co-curricular program work

While it is predominantly located on most college campuses, there are several schools like Groton beginning to participate, like Phillips Exeter Academy. With Dr. Fritz-Ellis’s leadership, Groton is well on its way to becoming the next school to become a part of Active Minds.

“Dr. Fritz-Ellis’s goal is to get rid of the stigmas that so often surround ‘visiting the counseling office...’”

to Groton with her support for the community and open-mindedness, and will continue to greatly improve the Circle with many new ideas to further the development of the understanding and discussion of self-wellness and health.

GUAC Pop-Up Show Brings Artists Above Ground

By ELEONOR WOLF ’17

On October 10, GUAC artwork was brought out of students’ iPhone screens and into the art center for a pop-up show. Groton Undiscovered Artists Collaborative (GUAC) is an initiative taken by the Art Prefects to share student art on the social media site Instagram (@thisisguac), and to allow students who do not take art electives to share their work. The pop-up show, suggested by Ms. Van Gelder and carried out by the Art Prefects, was a huge success, both in terms of turnout and of the featured works themselves.

The pop-up show, held in the main hallway of the Dil-lon Art Center, bustling with students and faculty munching on cookies and drinks,

all enjoying the atmosphere and art covering the walls.

The pieces featured in the show demonstrated an impressive variety of mediums and representation throughout the Groton School community. Some pieces included Suzy Kuczynski’s ’16 knit hats, Mr. Creamer’s hilarious “Doodles on quizzes,” Dr. Reyes’ carved seals, and multiple collages. The array of mediums ranged from embroidery, to ceramics, to photography, and more.

One notable set of artwork involved in the show was that of fall Faculty Sponsored Activities (FSAs). MacGregor Beatty ’17 and Echo Zhuge ’16 exhibited the artwork from their FSAs along with everyone else’s art at the pop-up show, and they presented this work to faculty and students



Students enjoy artwork adorning the walls.
FROM @THISISGUAC ON INSTAGRAM

The World Has Literally Gone Mad More Mass Shootings than Not

Continued from Front Page

had purchased the rifles back in 2011. Marquez never reported the ownership transfer in fear of California Law. He is thus currently undergoing investigation.

The F.B.I. is still identifying the shooters’ backgrounds and motives but revealed on Wednesday that Farook and Malik had been previously active in jihadist movements and martyrdom online in 2013 before their marriage. According to CNN News, Marquez also informed investigators that he and Farook had conceived a terror plot in 2012 but abandoned plans when “the F.B.I. arrested a group planning to join Al Qaeda in Afghanistan.”

On Friday, the F.B.I. stated that the case was being investigated as an act of terrorism for evidence of “extensive planning.” The F.B.I. is currently recovering information from two smashed cell phones and trying to locate their discarded computer hard drive.

The unforeseen event put many in the local community in shock as the neighborhood had never experienced much crime and violence before. This event made the nation question why shootings occurred so frequently. The community at Groton also engaged with the news and reacted to the feasibility of acquiring guns in the United States, firing up the debate on gun control. The shooting especially affected students who either lived in California or had family and friends who did. A shooting anywhere in this nation influences anyone who lives in the country.

“Because it’s California, it’s close to home and we all know people from around that area,” said Macy Lipkin ’18. “This certainly affects us.”

Though the event did impact the national community and instigated talks, it came as a lesser shock as it was the second shooting of the day and 353rd of the year. As shootings continue to occur

perpetually in the nation, the possibility of people turning numb to these reports increases.

“Because we see more posts regarding shootings popping up on our newsfeed, the more real they are. It’s hard to tell if there are more shootings or if I’m just more aware as I am getting older. Sandy Hook was a big deal but now we get one mass shooting making big news every week,” Macy said.

According to the New York Times, in 209 out of 336 days this year, “at least one shooting left four or more people injured or dead in the United States, according to compilations derived from news reports.”

The United States has mass shootings that are deemed routine and numbers exceed those of other countries. Whether these shootings are acts of terror or arising from different causes concerning independent socioeconomic status or mentality, the United States needs to tackle these alarming numbers.

“The one thing we do know is that we have a pattern now of mass shootings in this country that has no parallel anywhere else in the world,” said President Barack Obama in response to the San Bernardino shootings. “And there are some steps we could take not to eliminate every one of these mass shootings, but to improve the odds that they don’t happen as frequently - common-sense gun safety laws, stronger background checks.”

The nation recognizes a need for stricter gun control legislation to prevent the loss of innocent lives. California is recognized to be one of the strictest states concerning gun control but events like this depict the feasibility of evading the law.

“I think it should be harder to get a gun than it is to get a puppy,” said Macy Lipkin ’18. “I agree with the Facebook post that says, ‘what if we applied the same restrictions on guns that we do on abortion?’”

By RAJIT KHANNA ’19

Images upon images with the caption “Pray for Paris” flooded my Instagram feed. Desperate for knowledge, I turned to Google. What I found was horrifying and shocking. Mine wasn’t the only Instagram feed that was bombarded with artist Jean Jullien’s #PeaceforParis’ logo, on November 13th. In the 24 hours that followed the terrorist attacks, 70 million people reposted that same picture.

At 9:20 pm, Central Europe-an time, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) started their first attack. One suicide bombers detonated his belts outside the Stade de France in Saint Denis, where the French and German national soccer teams were playing a friendly. Two more suicide bombers were to detonate in the next half hour. Everyone inside the stadium was quickly evacuated, including the President of France, François Hollande. Five minutes later, masked gunmen

opened fire at two restaurants back in Paris. Masked figures in automobiles went on to attack two more restaurants, one with assault rifles and another with a suicide bomber. Finally, in the bloodiest onslaught of the night, three attackers arrived to the concert venue Bataclan, and fired randomly with no mercy. The assailants would then take members of the audience as hostages. Two hours

in fulfillment of the requirements of the FSA committee

Despite the huge success of the show, Suzy and Ms. Van Gelder both agreed that they hope to see more representation throughout the student body and faculty in the next GUAC show and on the Instagram account, which is open for submissions through emails, texts, etc. Suzy Kuczynski emphasized that she hopes to see more lower formers and faculty members submit work to the Instagram account and to the next show in the future, so as to increase overall school participation.

Ms. Van Gelder, the first person who suggested that the art prefects take GUAC one step further through a pop-up show, describes her reasoning behind this idea. “Being a hands on artist, I worry about tech tak-

ing over,” she explained. She stated that the combination of the advertisements of the show through GUAC’s Instagram and the aspect of the artwork being taken into “real time” was what led to the show’s great success.

Another goal that was achieved through the pop-up show this past fall, Ms. Van Gelder stated, was that it opened up the art center as a whole to students who typically did not have any reason for going, and hopefully encouraged more students to enroll in more art electives.

As for the future of GUAC in regard to the next pop-up show, which we are all highly anticipating, it is apparently already schedule for late February, a few weeks before March break. Clear your calendars, people, the next

later at 12:20 PM, French police stormed the Bataclan, which led to the death of three terrorists, and freed the hostages.

By Saturday, November 14th, 129 human lives had been lost, and 368 people injured; the deadliest assault on France since World War II. Eight of the attackers, including ringleader Abdelhamid Abaaoud, either blew themselves up or were caught by the police. Authorities are still on the lookout for two suspects by the names of Salah Abdeslam and Mohamed Abrini. France was already on

will not destroy France, because France will destroy it.” Moreover, Belgium has come under heavy criticism because of its perceived intelligence prior to the attacks, and inability to relay that information quickly to French forces.

“I swear to God, as we struck France in its stronghold Paris, we will strike America in its stronghold, Washington,” claimed an ISIS fighter in a video released November 16th. Ra’ad Zeid ’19, when asked whether he felt safe knowing that Washington D.C. is ISIS’s

next target replied; “I do not feel safe in that fact that that is supposed to be ISIS’ next target... I think that no one should feel perfectly safe right now at a time like this and the fact that they were able to do such terrible acts in a developed country is worrying.” Brent Gorton ’19 showed a little more optimism when asked the same question; “I do not feel completely safe; however, I have hope that our nation will take a stand and defend itself.” After being interviewed, Jake Kissel ’19, Ra’ad Zeid

’19, and Brent Gorton ’19 asserted that the Paris attacks had not made them feel any differently toward the Muslim population, because they feel that ISIS has no religious legitimacy and that it is committing these atrocities for political reasons. Indeed, the ISIL alleged the attacks were in retaliation for French airstrikes on ISIL targets located in Syria and Iraq.



A symbol supporting Paris after its attacks

FROM TIME

BURSTING THE BUBBLE: WORLD NEWS

By ZIZI KENDALL '17

There has been a lot going on in the world recently. Here is an update.

East Asia has been pretty overshadowed in the world of current affairs lately, but back in early November a landmark meeting occurred between Taiwan and China. On November 4th representatives from the two regions met for the first time since 1949, when the Chinese Revolution ended. Chinese president Xi Jinping and Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou met in Singapore to test thawing relations.

Just a few days after on November 13th, 129 people were killed by ISIS gun men in Paris. The attacks occurred at a concert hall, the Bataclan, restaurants, and at the French soccer stadium. In addition to those killed, hundreds more were wounded. The French President, Francois Hollande, called the attacks "an act of war".

While all stood in solidarity with those affected, many also criticized the rush of attention coming specifically to Paris when similar tragedies had occurred elsewhere. Additionally, the nature of the attacks prompted many U.S. governors, senators, congressmen, and presidential candidates to vow to keep such attacks out of the U.S. For some policy-makers, the means to this end were drastic. Specifically, Trump stated that he wished to ban all Muslims from traveling into the U.S. and Jeb Bush stated that U.S. policy in regard to refugees should be tailored to only accept Christians, saying, "we should focus our efforts as it relates to the refugees for the Christians that are being slaughtered."

On November 20th, 27 more people were killed by Islamic extremists at a hotel in Mali. These attacks in Mali, a former French colony, were seen by the French as a continuation of the Paris attacks.



French Police Patrol by the Eiffel Tower.

NPR

Just four days later, a Russian warplane was shot down over Turkey due to its invasion of Turkish airspace. The Turkish

government has reported that the plane ignored repeated warnings, entering Turkish territory from Syria.

On the same day, November 24th, hundreds of protesters took to the streets in Chicago to protest the shooting of Laquan McDonald. They protested against police brutality and racism and, by doing so, added to the recent wave of police protests.

The first of two recent mass shootings to occur in America occurred on the November 27th at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs. The shooter was apprehended and charged with murder in the first degree. This attack comes at a time when government funding of Planned Parenthood is being challenged by many anti-abortion groups.

On November 30th, the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference began in Paris. These talks will last two weeks and will involve over 30,000 diplomats and delegates from all over the world. Their

purpose is to work out a plan of action for every country to cut down on green house emissions and to do their part to curtail climate change. Among the talks leaders are Obama, Putin, French president Francois Hollande, President Xi Jinping from China, and President Modi from India.

The second recent shooting to occur was in San Bernardino, California. Fourteen people were killed and many more injured when a couple opened fire at a holiday party. The suspects were later killed in a raid by the police. The shooting, the most violent since the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary in 2012, has reignited the ever-brewing gun control debate.

The world continues to react to recent occurrences. International conversations about Islamophobia, refugees, abortion, and gun control have been sparked.



Rev. Bill Carmody leads Mass supporting Planned Parenthood.

RELIGION NEWS

UNRAVELING TAX POLICY WITH JOHN FOX

By JACK MCLAUGHLIN '17

John Fox, author of two books on the U.S. tax code, visited the Circle this Monday, December 7th, to share his insights on U.S. tax policy. A group of interested students gathered in the McBaine Studio Theatre to hear his lecture, which encompassed a variety of topics, including federal income tax rates, social security, and the home mortgage interest rate deduction.

In a show of bilateral cooperation, the event was co-hosted by Groton's Young Democrats and Young Republicans Clubs. Mr. Fox began his talk by explaining how federal income taxes work in the United States. He then focused particularly on tax breaks and who benefits most from them. He offered statistics which suggest that top earners share the vast majority of tax savings. After laying out facts and statistics regarding different pieces of the tax code, he prompted listeners to ask themselves questions about

what they believe to be "fair."

Mr. Fox also spoke about common tactics used by politicians to make tax policies sound better or worse than they really are. Being able to spot these tactics, he said, is important when forming opinions and voting.

"What I am hoping to do is at least begin a process by which young people think [U.S. tax policy] is accessible and that

"Understanding taxes is an integral part of being a citizen."

it is really important to their future," Mr. Fox said.

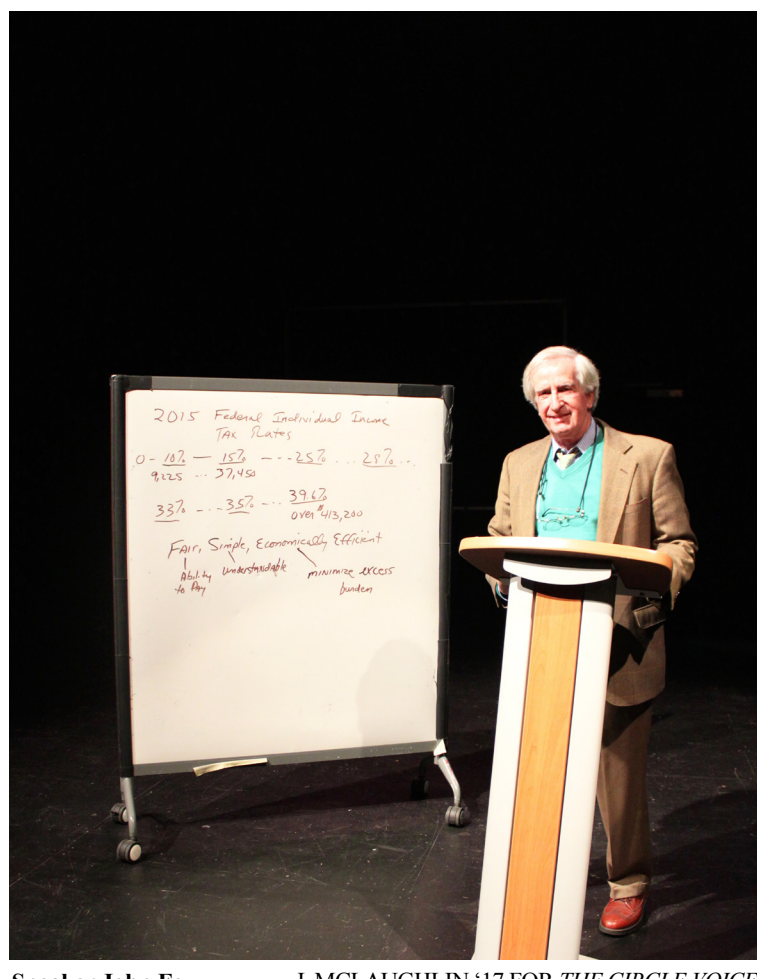
Mr. Fox has delivered similar talks at a wide range of different schools. Some of these, such as Deerfield and Williston Northampton, are prep schools like Groton. Others are inner-city public schools.

"My goal is to go everywhere," Mr. Fox said.

His long term goal, however, is to tape five talks, each of which will be one hour long and focus on a different aspect of the U.S. tax code. The talks will be available online—free of charge—for use by teachers. These, he hopes, will make it easy and accessible for students to understand the United States' tax code.

"After graduating, [students] move on to become voting citizens. Understanding taxes is an integral part of being a citizen," Mr. Fox said.

Mr. Fox practiced law for almost forty years and has been teaching courses on U.S. tax policy at Mount Holyoke College since 1984. He has written two books: "If Americans Really Understood the Income Tax and 10 Tax Questions the Candidates Don't Want You to Ask." His body of work also includes numerous op-eds in publications such as The Washington Post and The New York Times, all of which focus on U.S. tax policy.



Speaker John Fox

J. MCLAUGHLIN '17 FOR THE CIRCLE VOICE

WINTER FSAs: Food to Fives

By HADLEY CALLAWAY '17

Few things can break the monotonous routine of winter term at Groton, one being the Faculty-Sponsored Activities passionate Upper Schoolers pursue. Projects this year range from film to food to fives and beyond.

CULINARY

Varsha Harish, Laura Sodano, and Claire Peabody '16 Highly anticipated baked goodies await eager chefs Varsha Harish, Laura Sodano, and Claire Peabody '16 in their quest for culinary nirvana.

The three will be embarking on a culinary tour, beginning in the east with Japanese food and working their way back west to end with American. Each week they've chosen a different country to explore the cuisine of. During the week they'll also be making batches of treats for their weekly raffles, the winners will be receiving baked goodies.

Varsha, Laura, and Claire also have taken a cue from the Art Prefects in creating an Instagram account to document their creations, @culinary.clique. The trio still has more tricks up their sleeves, including plans for a bake sale and raffle benefiting UNICEF, and awarding a five-course meal for the winner of the raffle and two of their friends. So be sure to look out for their weekly raffles!



Laura, Claire, and Varsha Baking Challah.

M. YOU '16 FOR THE CIRCLE VOICE

in one medium when she first came to Groton until she realized her meticulousness was only holding her back.

Now Suzy creates art that differs from expectations. During her FSA last winter she did so by playing with subject. As she painted scenes that exhibited the less well-known Peru of her childhood. Her current project is similar in defying expecta-



Parker Practicing Guitar.

M. YOU '16 FOR THE CIRCLE VOICE

MIXED-MEDIA PAINTING AND SCULPTURE

Suzy Kuczynski '16

Suzy Kuczynski '16 is in the process of reaching new limits this winter as she dabbles with unfamiliar techniques and materials to create a series of mixed-media works of art to be presented in this term's GUAC pop-up show.

These new opportunities are a way of expanding what she calls her "art horizon," or "a middle-ground between what your heart wants to do and what your mind will allow you to do within the limits of who you are as an artist."

At her previous school in Peru, Suzy took strict art classes that culminated in an exam. She held onto those beliefs that expression could only to exist

tion, but through medium rather than subject. The first piece she's created is a portrait made with cardboard and newspaper along with paint.

This past summer, Suzy dabbled in mixed-media creations that combined pen, oil pastel, and paint. She loved the freedom of expression that mixed-media art provided, and she loved what experiences she had then enough to dedicate this winter to diving into mixed-media art and the new opportunities it provides.

The two mediums she has chosen for her project, paint and sculpture, complement each other in that "they both express movement without actually being in motion." Suzy likes to toe the line between the two mediums, declaring that paintings can have three dimensions, a hybrid of the two.

WINTER SPORTS DOCUMENTARY

Sydney Pagliocco '16 Borrowing equipment from a friend and an idea from a Groton alumnus, Sydney Pagliocco '16 is setting out to document how student-athletes find joy during the challenging winter.

Sydney will explore her life-long interest in film by crafting a documentary that focuses on varsity teams and their captains. The idea for the project came from the documentary Bobby Min '14 made about the football team. Sydney appreciated how Bobby's film looked professional, and hopes to mimic that in her own documentary.

Through this project, she hopes to learn about the players' commitment to their sports because, "to find something that makes you happy during the gruesome winter time is really something special." Her goal is to make a high-quality film full of genuine interviews that people will watch again and again.

GUITAR

Parker Banks '16

Parker Banks '16 will also be delving into a passion these next few months as he hones his guitar skills. His three-part plan includes studying improvisation, improving his technique, and composing new pieces that he will record in the music wing.

Parker traces his appreciation for guitar back to rock music. The songs he listened to when he was younger captured his interest.

A brief, one-song performance during a student music recital a year ago ignited his interest in performing. He'll be getting his chance again this March in his own concert, which will be the culmination of his study.

Parker has big plans for this upcoming term, especially emphasizing that he now has

creations of her third art FSA will be presented in this term's GUAC pop-up show alongside Suzy's.

She looks forward to exploring different styles of painting and discovering which ones she prefers. Her experiments will mimic the periods of expressionism, impressionism, and abstract impressionism, to name a few.

CREATIVE WRITING

Millie Kim '17

Millie Kim '17 is unleashing her creative potential in this term's creative writing FSA. A preview of what Expo will be like next year, the project includes constructing a writing portfolio.

A self-described "not very outspoken person," Millie finds it easier to convey meaning through the written word. When comparing writing to speaking, Millie says "writing seems to do a better job in introducing opinions in softer ways with reasoning behind ideas."

Some of these ideas have been in her thoughts long before the inception of her FSA. Recent events in Paris this past November and the mass shootings in our own country have caused Millie to ponder the motivations behind terror, an idea she wants to develop further in her writing. She also plans on speaking to life as an Asian American in the states.

Millie will also be writing from creative prompts supplied by her faculty advisor, Ms. Sen-Das, or from an online source. While she appreciates poetry, she felt that adding a third style of writing would give her too much ground to cover in a relatively short period of time. She plans on sharing her completed pieces with the community via email.

BRING BACK FIVES

Andrew Rasseti, Sam

Girian, Aidan Reilly '18

Andrew Rasseti, Sam Girian, and Aidan Reilly '18 are dusting off old Groton traditions with their "Bring back fives" FSA. Groton students used to play the English version of handball in the courts next to the Dining Hall.

The three boys first heard of it from a parent who attended Groton, and they decided to try it out for themselves. They are currently cleaning out the courts and will begin playing after break.



Andrew, Sam, and Aidan Outside the Fives Courts.

M. YOU '16 FOR THE CIRCLE VOICE

ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

Matt Winter '16

By ARAM MOOSAVI '17

Matt Winter '16 has been on the varsity hockey team ever since he came to Groton in Third Form. He started skating at age two, and playing hockey at seven. It has been his favorite sport ever since. When asked about his thoughts on the sport he responded, "It's the coolest on Earth. I love every second of it."

Matt's favorite hockey player is Sidney Crosby, and his favorite team is the Boston Bruins. Growing up, his most memorable moment playing hockey was when he participated in the skills competition at the 2009 AHL All-Star Game, representing AHL Planet USA. He came to Groton from Chelmsford High School, where he played on a team that made it to the State Semifinals.

Ever since he stepped foot on the Circle, Winter has made his presence known in the ISL. As a freshman Matt scored eight goals on the varsity team. When asked about his third form year he said, "We had a solid squad that was plagued by injuries. Nevertheless, I still remember the inspirational seniors on the team."

An improved "Matty Ice" entered his sophomore year



Winter on the ice.



Matt attacks the goal.

FROM THE CIRCLE VOICE FILES



J. SAUNDERS '16 FOR THE CIRCLE VOICE

with high expectations. He helped lead the team that year to a 16-8-3 record and finished the season with 14 goals. But midway through the season the resilient Winter went down

with a season ending injury, a separated shoulder. Not all was lost, as Winter experienced his favorite Groton Hockey moment, Frozen Fenway.

Winter was healthy when he

played at Fenway against St. Mark's, but the team ended up losing 2-1 in a game they led after the first two periods. Nevertheless, Winter said about the experience that, "It was

unforgettable. I feel extremely lucky to have participated in it. I will remember that game for the rest of my life."

Determined to improve after the previous year's injury, Winter came into his junior year hungry for success. He scored 12 goals as a starter before again going down with a wrist injury. Even though Winter was injured again, he stayed positive by remembering a quote by Jack Dempsey, a famous boxer, who said, "A champion is someone who gets up when he can't."

Matt is beloved as a teammate. Matt Mullen '17 said, "Winter is a great leader and player and has gone through an incredible amount of adversity but still shows up to practice every day with a passion for the game unrivaled by anyone else on the ice." Kei Nawa '17 added, "Winter motivates us to play our hardest every game, helping us beat challenging teams." In addition, this year Matt was elected as captain of the hockey team along with Adam Hauke '16 and Mike Brown '16.

Matt has high hopes for the team this year and believes this year's group has a lot of potential. Under Winter's leadership, the team can make it all the way to the playoffs.

Winter Sports Preview

By FEILD GOMILA '17

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Groton has kept a strong core from last year. Returning players include three time starter John Cecil '17 (center), Joe Collins '18 (forward) Aram Moossavi '17 (guard), sixth former Will Robbins '16 (guard/forward), and team captains Jack Fitzpatrick '16 (guard) and John MacEachern '16 (guard).

When asked about the team's potential, Jack said, "The team is looking the best it has in the time that I have been here. We are looking forward to having a great season." Groton plays in the always-competitive ISL and has some tough matchups looming on the schedule, but if the team plays to its potential, they can have a very successful season.

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

After injuries derailed a promising start to the 2014-2015 season, the girls are back with a vengeance. The team is led by co-captains Alyna Baharozian '18 and Allie Patenaude '16. Eight players and three starters are returning to the team. New members such as Mary Collins '20, sister of

Joe Collins, and Lyndsey Toce '18 all look to help along a team with some real promise. The ISL is a difficult league, but these Zebras are up to the challenge.

BOYS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

The boys are coming off a solid but challenging season. Several seniors from the team graduated, but an up and coming batch of players can replace their production. Richie Santry '18, Santeri Hartikainen '18, Cameron Schmitt '18, Joey Schiavone '19 and Marc Borghi '20 are all new to the team. They join seniors Ward Betts '16, Will Corman '16, Tanner Coffin '16, and captains Mike Brown '16, Matt Winter '16, and Adam Hauke '16 to round out a balanced lineup. Winter proclaimed, "Our team has a lot of potential to make it to the post season this year, and I am excited."

GIRLS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

Girls hockey is looking promising. The captains of this year's team are Sammy Johnson '16, Anna Thorndike '16, and Sophie Wilder '16. Sammy said, "In a sport like hockey where one person's performance affects another so drastically, team cohesion is important, and this team has it." This season is going to be a



Piper Higgins '17 prepares to take the faceoff.

FROM THE CIRCLE VOICE FILES

good one for the girls.

BOYS VARSITY SQUASH

The Groton Boys Squash team looks to continue its run of prolific recent success. The season culminates in a trip to the New England Championships. Led by strong play up and down the ladder this year's team looks very strong, led by a group of seniors that includes Luke Holey '16 and Will Bienstook '16. This year's co-captains, Zahin Das '16 and Michael You '16, had this to

say: "This year, the presence of seven strong returners gives us depth, experience, and high expectations. The league is especially strong this year, but we are playing at a level that means we will compete with and be among the best." At the top of the ladder is Terrence Wang '17. When success is the norm, expectations can be high, but this team is ready to live up to those expectations.

GIRLS VARSITY SQUASH

Girls Squash at Groton has a

legacy of dominance: consistent success during the season, multiple ISL championships in the past decade, and high finishes in the Division A Interscholastic Tournament is what this program is known for. Several key players from last year's strong team return to lead another solid team. Co-Captains Anna Nicholson '16 and Maddy Forbess '16 said "Girls squash will be working hard this year. We're looking forward to lots of great matches and we're excited for some of the new faces to step up to the plate."

Major League Baseball Offseason

By WESTBY CASPERSEN '17

The Major League Baseball Offseason officially began the second after the Kansas City Royals got the last out of the 2015 World Series, but it is just beginning to heat up now. So far, the offseason has been exciting in that there are many trades occurring, as well as the usual free agent signings.

The biggest moves so far this offseason have been made by the Arizona Diamondbacks. After a mediocre season (79-83), The Diamondbacks are now expected to win their division and enter the playoffs as a formidable force. Their major move has been signing starting pitcher Zack Greinke for six years and \$206.5 million.

With an average annual salary of almost \$34.5 million, Greinke will become the highest paid player ever. Last year Greinke had a superb season, finishing second in the NL Cy Young Award (best pitcher) voting, and having a league lowest ERA (runs allowed per 9 innings) of 1.66.

The only concern of this deal is that Greinke is 32, and although he has not looked like it, he is nearing the end of his prime. However, the Diamondbacks are prepared for this, and pushing to make a title run sooner rather than later. Soon after getting Greinke, they traded three of their top prospects to the Atlanta Braves for all-star pitcher Shelby Miller. These two aces will greatly improve

an already sound Diamondbacks rotation, while making the team a serious contender.

Greinke is not the only pitcher to have gotten a big deal. The Boston Red Sox signed David Price, who carried their division rival the Blue Jays into the playoffs and came second in the AL Cy Young voting. Price's contract of \$217 million for seven years is the most money

that a pitcher has ever signed for, and it shows that the Red Sox are itching to get back into contention. Price, who has been with three teams in the last two years, has finally found a long-term home, and the Red Sox could not be happier to have him after they gave up the fifth most runs in the entire MLB last year.

Simultaneous to this an-

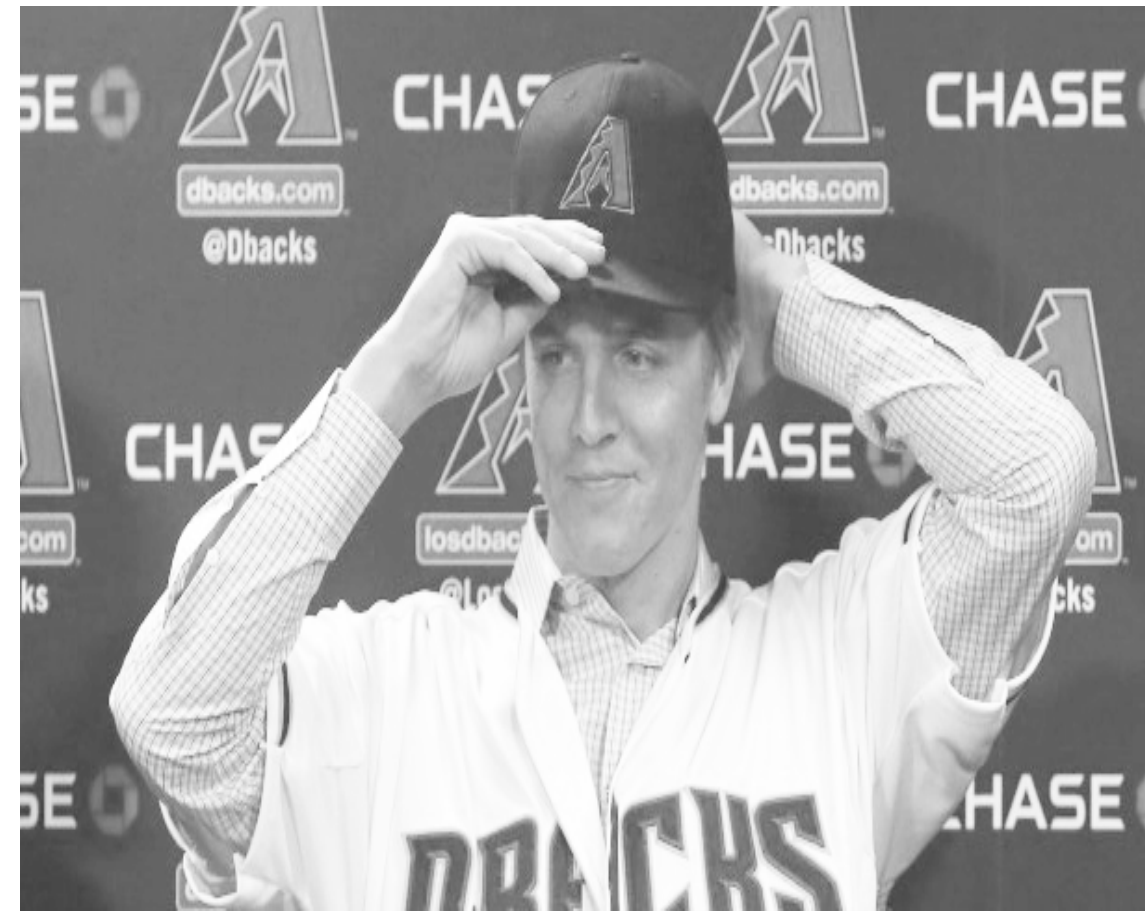
nouncement, it was released that the Detroit Tigers signed pitcher Jordan Zimmermann to a contract of five years, worth \$110 million. Zimmermann is not in the same class of pitchers as Greinke and Price, but he is very good and will be the ace of the Tigers' pitching staff. Relievers have also gotten big deals.

Pitchers have been the focus

this offseason, yet there has been some action concerning position players. Ryan Zimmerman, the Washington Nationals' third baseman, who would have become an unrestricted free-agent next year, has signed an extension for six-years and \$100 million.

The Chicago Cubs, who were defeated by the New York Mets in the NL championship, signed outfielder Jason Heyward to a long term deal and second baseman Ben Zobrist to a four year deal worth \$56 million. Immediately following the Zobrist signing, the Cubs traded Castro to the New York Yankees in exchange for pitcher Adam Warren and a few other players. This trade serves both teams well. It fills the Yankees' dire need for a second baseman who can hit, and it adds depth to the Cubs' pitching rotation, which has proven to be shaky apart their two aces, Arrieta and Lester.

Big deals and trades should continue to occur throughout the next month. Starting pitchers Johnny Cueto, Mike Leake, and Scott Kazmir are still on the market and will make at least 20 million per year in their new deals. All-Star position players are also available in Yoenis Cespedes, Dexter Fower, Justin Upton, and Chris Davis. Also, many managers and GMs are listening carefully to trade offers, so there should be much more excitement in the near future.



Zach Greinke tries on his new Arizona cap.

FOXSPORTS.COM

All-Star Cross Country Races

By ANNA REILY '16

Although most students had completed their fall seasons by exam week last term, four athletes continued to practice throughout exam week to compete during the first day of their Thanksgiving breaks. Four of Groton's top male and female runners qualified to participate in the NEPSA Cross Country All-Star Championships Race this year. Both male and female runners qualify for this race by finishing in the top 20 runners



Maddy Forbess '16 races.

FROM THE CIRCLE VOICE FILES

in each of the four divisions of the New England Preparatory Track Association, and approximately 40 runners compete in each race.

This year the Groton Girls' Cross Country team had three runners qualify for this competition. Maddy Forbess '16, Hanna Kim '17, and Abby Kirk '19 all participated in this All-Star Race. It was both an exciting and particularly speedy season as the last year that Groton's Girls' Cross Country team had three runners qualify for this race was in 2010. However, the team has been consistently

sending runners to this competition for the past five years. Maddy has represented Groton for the past three years, but for Hanna and Abby, this was the first time running in this competitive race.

Abby said, "I really enjoyed the race. It was a change from before when we were racing against other teams and trying to catch jerseys in front of us. It was a lot more relaxed. We were racing just for time, and I thought it was a good way to segue out of the competition." Mr. O'Donnell, who served as one of the girls' coaches this season, remarked, "It was a lot of fun watching Maddy, Hanna, and Abby prepare and race. It was great to see them work together as teammates as they had all season, and to see them run so well among the fastest runners from every division was fantastic."

This year the Groton Boys' Cross Country team had one runner qualify for the All-Star race. Will Norton '17 represented Groton in this 2015 competition. The boys' team has sent at least one runner for the past five years as both Chris King '13 and Willy Anderson '15 have run in this competition, and this was Will's second



Will Norton '17 running.

FROM THE CIRCLE VOICE FILES

time competing in the race.

Will said, "Everybody there is passionate about running and happy to compete, and it's a great atmosphere to run a race in. The only downside is that it is usually one of the coldest races of the year, but that only makes you run faster." Mr. Capen, who served as one of the boys' coaches this season, commented, "Coaching at such

a race is like being a theater director on opening night; I get to enjoy the show!"

It takes determination both to run and to coach in such temperatures and at the end of an entire season of competition, but especially to train through one of the toughest weeks of the Groton school year. Congratulations, All-Star Runners and Coaches!

Lessons and Carols: Festive Nights on the Circle



By ELLA ANDERSON '17
and CLAUDETTE RAMOS '16

While most students have been relaxing during these past two weeks, decorating common rooms with Christmas lights and carefully planning out gifts to give for their dorms' Secret Santa, a fraction of the student body has been involved in rigorous rehearsals for none other than the three annual performances of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. This year marks the 87th service at Groton, which is the oldest of its kind in the United States.

Though our service has only been around since 1928, this tradition dates back to the late nineteenth century. In 1878, the choir of the Truro Cathedral in Cornwall announced they would perform a selection of carols on Christmas Eve, shifting away from the previous tradition of door-to-door caroling. The Festival was popular, and the tradition both stuck with the choir in Cornwall as well as spread throughout England.

The most famous service of Lessons and Carols is performed by the choir of King's College, Cambridge, which held its inaugural service on Christmas Eve in 1918, and has continued to conduct the Festival every year since. Radio broadcasts of the service started in 1928, which immediately became popular with the public who could attend the live performances. From then on, the service developed a devoted following. The radio program continued on even throughout World War II, serving as a break from all of the usually aired propaganda, though for security purposes the name of the college could not be disclosed. The music, a respite from the constant tragedies of war, continues to be one of the highlights of many listeners' years. Eventually, the choir started filming the full program to be shown on BBC television, making it even more accessible to the public.

Our service is most similar to that of King's, mostly due to the fact that the King's service changes only slightly

year to year in the selection of hymns and carols. Groton's first choirmaster and organist, Twining Lynes, attended one of King's earliest services and was inspired to conduct his own service on the Circle. The King's service started with "Once in Royal David's City" so Groton's first service followed suit, and both services have continued with that opening ever since.

For this year's service, Mr. Moriarty has chosen a program mixed with old favorites and completely new pieces, with carols and hymns ranging from the well-known and always jolly "Personent Hodie" to a newer Lauridsen arrangement of "O Magnum Mysterium." The choir remains a modest size under Mr. Moriarty's second year of direction, but what they lack in numbers they make up for in passion and wholeness of sound; the older, more experienced choristers have greatly enjoyed the presence and energy of fresh, new faces.

Although Dr. Tumminio is new to the Circle this year, she

has succeeded in both keeping various traditions of the chapel program and leaving her unique mark. The same applies for Lessons and Carols, and it has been a pleasure to listen to her recitation of the many prayers and offerings of the service.

The first service on Friday night opened St. John's Chapel to the public, and members of both the Groton community and the surrounding towns eagerly flooded the aisles. The Orchestra started off the night with a number of classic Christmas pieces, like "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and "Joy to the World." From there, the service ran flawlessly. Emma Rimmer '16 reflects on the night, saying, "The crowd was so nice; we were greeted with the faces of so many kind townspeople, and literally I was crying by the time I reached the end of the aisle. I felt the Christmas spirit so strongly."

Sunday night's performance was reserved for various parents and alumni; while the crowd was slightly smaller, there was a stronger sense of presence, in the form of wide

smiles and louder voices. The second night tends to boast stronger audience participation, as alumni belt out the classics, remembering, reminiscing about their time as students within the stone walls decorated with elaborate stained-glass. Westby Caspersen '17 says of that night, "My family was there, my mom and aunt, and they got to visit me and my brother that weekend. It was just really nice having them attend and hear us perform." Thursday marks the final performance, but already the senior choristers are overwhelmingly nostalgic, what with Tuesday morning marking their final Carol Sing. Lessons and Carols remains one of the most loved of Circle traditions. Laura Sodano '16 says, "I love Lessons and Carols; I think it's one of the greatest things Groton does. I think it's really wonderful hearing people I know perform from their heart."

By MACY LIPKIN '18

Those who came to the Parents' Weekend Concert or the more recent Christmas music celebrations heard from a variety of accomplished Groton musicians. Among them was senior Angus Warren '16, a multi-talented singer and instrumentalist who you could say has covered all the basses.

Some might have an image in their minds of Angus: co-head of the boys' a cappella group The Maquellas, a singer. However, the avid bassist, guitarist, and drummer considers singing as something he does on the side, even though he's been singing "since the dawn of time." Ever since picking up bass in the fourth grade, instrumental music has been at Angus's side. He picked up guitar in eighth grade and learned drums along the way, all the while following his love for classic rock with his fingertips on the fretboard and with drumsticks in hand. What makes his musical accomplishments all the more impressive is that he "taught [himself] everything [he knows]" musically, with the exception of singing.

Though he has many options before picking up an instrument in his downtime, electric guitar is Angus's favorite to play. "In the right hands," which he claims "are not [his]," the electric guitar is versatile and "can respond to any mood [or] any tone."

"Guitarists are always the most flamboyant members of bands," he mentions as another reason why the guitar is his primary instrument, and he's not ashamed to say that "it's always fun to show off on stage." And, well, Angus cites a certain quote about bassists "attributed to Frank Zappa" as a reason he

"[doesn't] love playing bass." If you're a Zappa fan, you'll know.

Despite the electric guitar's versatility, sometimes six steel strings just won't cut it. "In times of extreme desperation," Angus notes, "like before the Lyons' U.S. Exam, playing drums is a tremendous release."

Since coming to Groton in III Form, Angus—who hails from the birthplace of classic rock, Cleveland, Ohio—has expanded his music trajectory. However, his musical journey has not been without difficulties.

Angus recalls that upon his arrival at Groton, he was told that he had to fulfill his visual arts requirement before participating in the music program. While he ultimately did find a place in the Jazz Combo, this was just the first instance of being challenged as a musician at Groton. It was also difficult for

Angus, who initially expected to continue with the unique upright bass, to find the perfect group through which he could further his training.

Such challenges were not easy to overcome at first, but Angus found his transition to choral music to be a great one under the guidance of Groton's former choir director, Chris Hampson. Angus "was coached and strongly influenced by Chris Hampson," who "showed [Angus] that music was meant to be fun, first and foremost," a "value which" Angus has noticed "isn't promoted in traditional music teaching." Angus is in his fourth year of choir—one of four senior choir prefects—and is on the lookout for any choral singing opportunities in college, although he recognizes that he will be more likely to find an a cappella group than a choir.

ARTIST OF THE ISSUE

Angus Warren '16



Angus rehearsing

I. SMALLWOOD '16 FOR THE CIRCLE VOICE

In addition to discovering new types of music, Angus has found at Groton a comfortable atmosphere for sharing what he's been working on through various student-run events. "Open mic is the best thing that has ever happened to me!" Warren exclaims joyfully, adding that "anybody who's anybody can come and play what they've done, uninhibited by grades and all that craziness."

Angus plays "the same kind of music [he listens] to," a list which is topped by classic rock. More specifically, Angus's favorite bands include the Rolling Stones, Who, Led Zeppelin, Yes, and the Beatles. "Paul McCartney is my idol," Angus adds with a grin, "I went and saw him live three summers ago" and it's safe to say that "it was a religious experience." For the Parents' Weekend Concert, Angus arranged a version of

"Ruby Tuesday" by his beloved Rolling Stones. It was no easy feat, considering the diversity of the Music Prefects' instruments, but the performance was highly commended by many who attended.

Angus's passion for music extends beyond playing, arranging, and listening. His freshman year, Warren "got really into recording." He tackles a piece "layer by layer and can record [himself] playing five" different parts on the same song. With no interest in songwriting, Angus makes his magic through covers, finding that the piece he's working on "becomes [his] in a way."

A true renaissance artist, Angus has also dabbled in visual arts. He's "never gotten serious" in that field, but he has toyed with painting and drawing for as long as he can remember. "But I've been involved in GUAC," Angus points out, "which is something."

In the future, in addition to more enthusiastic support for any musician pursuing a somewhat unconventional path, Warren would "like to see more practice rooms [added and] an operational recording studio" for future Grotonians who share his passions.

"When I first came here," Warren recalls, "I wasn't sure that I was gonna like jazz band or choir, but as it turns out, [these] have become my favorite things [at Groton]." So to musicians new to the Circle, Warren's advice is to "be willing and able to make changes in your musical trajectory." His story is inspiration enough to branch out—you just might discover that you are enthralled with a hobby you never thought would interest you.

The Laramie Project: A Review

By ZARA ALI '18

"The Laramie Project", a play created by the Tectonic Theater Project, a theater company located in New York City, examined the horrific 1998 murder of twenty-one year old Matthew Shephard and its effect on Matthew's hometown of Laramie, Wyoming. Through a series of powerful, poignant interviews from people connected to the incident of various backgrounds and beliefs, the play explores, above all, a town and its different reactions and voices in the wake of an unspeakable tragedy.

Shephard, a gay college student, had been beaten sadistically beyond recognition by two other men and tied to a fence where he was left to die. His death shocked the world and sparked serious outrage and reflection, especially within the United States; gay rights advocates called more incessantly for a wave of legal reforms, and the event

served as a stimulus for the country to discuss previously unaddressed issues of great importance and consequence: hate crimes, homophobia and social injustice. Although, since the tragedy, the nation has progressed significantly in terms of LGBT rights, like the recent decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to legalize gay marriage, raising awareness for equal treatment of those who are different has never been more urgent.

Within our own community at Groton, the cast and crew raised awareness through this past fall's brilliant production. The performance left a profound message that clearly resonated throughout the teary-eyed audience. Elechi Ekwuekwe '18 felt that "the way it was put together was pretty good considering it was performed by high school students and the original version was created by adults who actually went to Laramie." Not only did it force the audience to come to terms with the harsh realities of social injustices and violence, but it

also reminded our own diverse community of the importance of being open-minded and tolerant towards everyone and to be respectful of differences. One cast member expressed that the "live and let live" mentality prevalent throughout the play "has its own form here at Groton. It's not exactly the same as in Laramie, but it's definitely in the same strain."

The sensational, emotional performances that were able to move the audience took great dedication and perseverance from the cast, crew and Laurie Sales, who directed the production. Bringing the script to life in order to effectively convey the underlying messages and accurately portray the characters proved challenging for the cast; "all of the stories and the dialogue and the characters were real," said Arabella Peters '18, who participated in her first Groton production this fall. "It brings a great responsibility to portraying them and really showing the character of the town and the people in it in a way that does the story justice." The

cast members were trusted with the task of taking the audience, through a medley of emotions: sorrow and despondency, anger, perplexity, and hope.

The cast participated in several workshops and exercises that helped them understand the intensity of the interviews and their own characters. For instance, the cast spent afternoons acting out characters' quirks, behaviors and mannerisms. They had to fully immerse themselves in the world of Laramie and the lifestyles and beliefs of its residents. In that time, they "realized how one character you might be playing is different from another, and how those difference let the audience know who is who," said Rose Gil '18. It was important that they appreciated even the slightest features of each character since it allowed the audience a glimpse into the characters' lives. Along with delving deep into their roles, the cast had to remember the difficulty of interviewing others and being interviewed about

sensitive topics. There was more to this play than simply learning the lines – the cast came together to speak about their thoughts, opinions and feelings about the murder and town of Laramie, and in turn, channeled that emotion into their acting.

Students who attended the production felt the passionate sentiment and were left with feelings of reverence. Zeni Maquela '18 said, "It was eye-opening in the sense that none of us have ever experienced a situation where someone is killed because of their sexuality. And watching that on stage opened a lot of eyes." "The Laramie Project" served as a strong form of communicating the tough truths through the performing arts and served as an example of countless social injustices that occur. The compelling monologues and representation of opposing views reminded Zeni, as well as many other students, that "just because it isn't happening here, doesn't mean it isn't happening."

LEAKED: A Modest Proposal for Groton's Future

By **CONCERNED INCLUSIONIST ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBER**

Groton has made enormous strides in the last few years with the new focus on DIVERSITY and INCLUSION and we in the administration cannot help but to plan ahead for the future. After much deliberating and obvious understanding of student sentiment, we created this list to propose how we would like to see the school ten years down the road.

1. *Include.* Because, well, INCLUSION.

2. *All conversations between students must include EVERY other student in school.* In an effort to curb any exclusion found between one-on-one conversations or cliques (that must be avoided at all costs) whenever anyone requires to speak, they must gather the whole school and then, and only then, can they begin to have an inclusive conversation about DIVERSITY and INCLUSION.

3. *All romantic student relationships must include EVERY other student in the school.* We know that here at Groton, your relationships are totally normal (a fact constantly reinforced by the benevolent admins and constant patrolling). Whether it be going to sketchy places in the woods, a decrepit Student Center, a freezing cold field in the dead of winter or living in constant fear of being busted during intervis for a closed door, each and every relationship here is beyond the acceptable standards of what we feel is "healthy." We noticed that, even though romances are usually between two people, the other 378 did feel excluded to some extent and therefore they must be involved in some capacity.

4. *No more dances with music...* Now, the "Guide to Groton" will be read once a month in the Student Center from 9 to 10 PM. As music has lyrics and rhythms that some people found "over the top" and insensitive to their "safe spaces," our in-touch administration has found it in the best interest of the students to replace songs (like "My Neck, My Back" by Khia) with a live reading by our lovely senior

prefects Anna "Russell's Sister" Thorndike and Jack "I'm My Own Taco" Fitzpatrick. DJ Kryptik, after being informed on the matter, commented, saying, "This is not our story."

5. *No more roll call announcements.* This one is a no-brainer. In a student survey (in which the data will never be revealed) we found that students were made uncomfortable by roll call announcements because of the "tone" of the speaker. Differing mannerisms, volume changes and such things as pausing, laughing and coughing personally offended certain students who did not display any signs of hypersensitivity. With no announcements, no one will disrespect their peers during roll call... problem solved! Roll call itself will still exist, however, because tradition.

6. *Uniforms will replace dress code.* The current dress code does not fit our ten-year plan and it allows for virtually zero student inclusivity. Instead, we liked required orange jumpsuits with convenient serial numbers on the breast pocket (to increase teacher ease when addressing students). The DIVERSITY found among each student's seven-character serial number will simply brighten one's day. With everyone wearing the same exact thing, INCLUSION will reign supreme!

7. *Acceptance rate will be set at 100%.* With no one being rejected from Groton, no one will be hurt in any way, shape or form. Yes, the school will have to somewhat increase its capacity to accompany almost a thousand more students, but it will really be beneficial.

We hope that this very, very modest proposal for the school will help improve upon what has already been accomplished.

P.S. Does the word "inclusion" contain every letter in the alphabet? Just food for thought...



S. PARK '19

Caption This!

E-mail Steven Anton (santon@groton.org)

Daisy Fey,

Winter Formal?

Hopefully Yours,

Ethan Woo