THE SCRIBE

inspired by the centennial

Spartan Baseball Back on campus



Solebury Attends "No Kings Protest"



SOLEBURY SCHOOL 100
A Century of Learning, A Lifetime of Community

Meet the Staff:

James Anglim, 27'
Micah Bloom, 29'
Clare Braun-Adams, 29'
Chloe Fletcher, 26'
Joshua Gardner, 26'
Gilbert Nkpulu, 27'
Shay Proctor, 27'
Aaron Shoer, 29'
Brady Titlton, 26'
Jax Zander, 28'

Solebury School *April Edition*

NEWS

Students Protest At No Kings Rally in Doylestown by Joshua Gardner'26

What is No Kings



No Kings is a big-tent movement formed in protest to the authoritarian actions committed by President Trump. Some of these actions are, but are by no means limited to: utilizing the national guard to intimidate political opposition, deploying ICE agents en masse with the goal of rounding up and deporting immigrants and attempting to cover up his involvement in the sex crimes committed by Jefferey Epstein.

No Kings takes inspiration from non-violent Civil Rights and Anti War movements from the 60s. Demonstrations are full of artistry, in the signs which are held and the songs which are sung. What is unique about No Kings is that they try to be everywhere. Rallies are held from small suburbs to large cities, ensuring that everyone who wants to participate can do so.

As of writing, three No Kings protests have occurred. The first occurred on June 14th, with an estimated 4 million people partaking in the protest. The second occurred on October 18th, with approximately 7 million people attending. The third and most recent had roughly 8-9 million people. While Solebury students have participated in all three events, prior to March 28th, there was not a coordinated effort by the faculty to send students to a demonstration.

A First Hand Account

The protest took place in Downtown Doylestown.

The protest began at 2:30. Things were quick to take off. Dozens of protestors turned to hundreds. Quickly, sidewalks became overcrowded, though people would work together to clear a path if someone was trying to pass through. Protestors were from all walks of life. Students, teachers, civilians, veterans, young people, old people. Point being, one could find all sorts of characters while walking through the streets. Several people wore inflatable costumes, others wore revolutionary war inspired uniforms. A few played instruments while walking among the crowd and sung songs mocking the president and his cabinet. Overall, protestors had a friendly attitude towards each other. While each of us decided to take part in the demonstration for our own various reasons, we were all united in our disdain for President Trump's authoritarianism.

Several cars drove along the streets, witnessing our demonstration. Most drivers paid no mind to us, some honked in solidarity, a few rolled down their windows to flip us off, and one guy just blasted YMCA (A song Trump used a lot for his presidential campaign) as he drove past us.

By 5:00, the protest was beginning to wind down. The streets once bustling with activists were now more considerably empty. Having been out and about for the entire afternoon, Solebury's students left the protest and were escorted back to campus

Final Thoughts

A fair amount of criticism can be levied towards No Kings. There's a case to be made that due to the passive nature of the movement, its protests amount to nothing more than collective therapy sessions. However, No Kings has awakened something previously dormant in the American psyche. For at least three days, No Kings brought millions of people together in solidarity, unafraid to stand by and support each other. Such a feat cannot simply be dismissed as "preformative" or "useless." One thing is for certain, Americans are in the mood for change. It's up to the next generation of activists to keep that fire of rebellion lit.

Solebury School *April Edition*

THE SIDELINE

Spartan Baseball Makes it's Long Awaited Return to Campus, Inaugurating Our New Field-- Perservance Park

Baseball is back (and with a brand-new field) on Solebury's campus! The baseball team opened with an 8-5 win over the Mesivta High School of Greater Philadelphia. Justin Liu was starting on the bump for the Spartans. The Spartans opened the game with a solid first inning, before exploding with a five run 2nd inning. Mesivta was able to respond strongly late in the game, but the combined efforts of Steven Murphy and Brett Prester were able to hold off the charging opposition and win by 3 runs. Yay!



After opening the season with an exciting win at home, the Spartans had back-to-back home games that they unfortunately lost. The first game against Trenton Central provided plenty of learning opportunities for the future. Despite the losses, the Spartans team has a better idea on what to work on. The next game is scheduled for April 9th, but due to a lack of players, the games next week may get rescheduled. While it would be a loss for the fans, a long break could give the Spartans ample time to right the ship.



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Solebury School *April Edition*

THE SIDELINE

No Plate Like Home
Softball Starts their Spring Season



Softball season is finally back at our school, and I can already feel the excitement and school spirit in the air. After months of gym sessions, batting cage reps, and chilly open-field practices, we're more than ready to get out there and compete. This year's roster feels like a great mix of us upperclassmen and some really promising new players who are already bringing so much energy to the team.

What I'm most excited about is the leadership I'm seeing from my fellow returning players. We've been working hard to mentor the younger girls, helping them get used to the fast pace of high school ball. That balance is creating such a strong sense of unity and chemistry, and you can really feel it during practice. Our coaches keep reminding us that while talent is great, it's our fundamentals, mental toughness, and consistency that will actually carry us through the tough innings.



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Looking at the schedule, we've got some big rivalry games coming up that I know will be intense. I'm especially looking forward to our home games—there's nothing like playing in front of a loud, supportive crowd to get the adrenaline going. Our goals are simple: get better every single day, play with total confidence, and leave everything on the field. Whether we're celebrating a big win or learning from a tough loss, I know this season is going to be about growth and resilience. The first pitch is almost here, and I honestly think we're about to make this a season to remember. Softball season is finally back at our school, and I can already feel the excitement and school spirit in the air. After months of hitting the gym, putting in time at the batting cages, and practicing out on the field, we're more than ready to get out there and compete.







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Solebury School *April Edition*

THE SIDELINE

Track And Field, Off and Running for the Spring Season



Track and field took off to a great start at the PJAA invite on April 1, 2026. Solebury competed against several talented teams in a meet that highlighted both individual skill and excellence. This may have just been one meet, but Solebury have proved themselves as worthy contenders going into the season.

On the track, several athletes stood out with impressive performances. Amora Goines shattered the girls 100 meter record, clocking in at 12.78 as a freshman!. Ryan M. also had an amazing meet throwing 118 ft at the discus event and clocking a 23.61 sec. 200m. These performances helped The solebury girls take 1st place and the boys, 2nd in all individual events.

The relay teams played a key role in the meet's success. The boys and girls 4x100-meter relay team executed clean handoffs and showcased excellent speed, earning a first-place finish. Both 4x400-meter relay teams closed out the meet with determination, finishing second after a competitive race that kept spectators engaged until the final stretch.



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Solebury School *April Edition*

THE SIDELINE

Track And Field, Off and Running for the Spring Season



Beyond the results, the meet was a testament to the team's hard work, sportsmanship, and commitment. Many athletes achieved personal records, reflecting the effort put in during practices and the support of teammates and coaches. The positive energy and encouragement seen throughout the meet highlighted the strong team culture that continues to develop.

Overall, the Solebury track and field team demonstrated significant progress and promise. With standout performances across multiple events and a growing sense of confidence, the team looks forward to building on this success in upcoming meets.



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Solebury School *April Edition*

THE SIDELINE

Back in Full Swing: Golf and Tennis Teams Return to Competition



The golf team at Solebury School isn't the kind of team where everything feels super polished or overly serious, and that's honestly what makes it stand out. It's a mix of players who have been golfing for years and people who are still figuring out how to keep the ball out of the trees, and somehow it all works. Everyone improves, just at their own pace. Practices usually feel pretty laid-back, but not in a lazy way. You'll have days at the range working on swing consistency, and other days actually out on a course where things get more real. That's where you start to realize golf is way more mental than it looks. One bad shot can mess with your head if you let it, so a lot of what you learn is how to reset and move on.

It's frustrating sometimes, but also kind of addictive when you start seeing progress. Matches are a different experience compared to most school sports. There's no crowd, no noise, just you, your opponent, and the course. It can feel pretty quiet, but also kind of intense in a low-key way. You're expected to keep your own score, stay honest, and handle yourself without a coach constantly telling you what to do.



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What are we wearing?

By Chloe Fletcher • April 2, 2026

Spring Edition!

Q: Now that the weather is warmer, what are you excited to wear this spring?

A:



Flowy maxi skirts, and I'm glad i dont have to layer for the cold anymore. I'm also excited to wear tank tops, my DIY studded top, and my off shoulder tops - Katica

Flowy skirts, dresses, sandals - Maya



Shorts, skirts, blue things - soleil



FEATURES

Video Game Review of the Month

Prometheus himself came down and gave us Peggle; the greatest achievement of mankind. Peggle, released February 27, 2007, is the brainchild of Hideo Kojima. In the game Peggle you must get all the orange pegs in a complex puzzle like sequence that involves hitting a pinball on blue, orange, purple, and green pegs, i.e. "peggling" . Once you peggle you can never come back, every peg peggled translates into a rush of adrenaline that you can't get from anything else. Peggling isn't just a game, it's a lifestyle.

Peggle Reviews by Aaron Shoer, 29'

Like Sun Tzu says in his book The Art of War, "All warfare is based on Peggle. Hence, when we are able to peggle, we must seem unable; when using our ball, we must appear inactive; when we see Björn, we must make the enemy believe this is no Björn; when we aren't peggling, we must make him believe we are.". Matt Groening, Creator of The Simpsons predicted this and we weren't paying attention .Depending on the master you play as in Peggle you get unique magical powers. Like Socrates the Peggle Master says "If Peggle is your power, what are you without it?".



This raises the question if Shakespeare really knew how to play Peggle as his tragedies seemingly don't feature references to Peggle or the beloved character Renfield who has the ability Spooky Ball. In Breaking Bad shortly after Combo's death Walter White Jr. allegedly peggled. Peggle has so much influence on our life that we wouldn't know how life would b e without Peggle. As Ken BB, famously known for being Pro League Peggle Master, "If I didn't Peggle I'd be teaching foraging at a school for the gloomy remainder of my life."

Peggle went down in history as the best selling video game ever to be made. Björn the Unicorn has made various reports about Peggle showing the positive impacts of peggling. Björn exposes the secrets of Jimmy Lighting, who the mob call "Godfather". Peggle is the pizza of video games, first you have the sauce, and then you have the cheese, and then you have the iconic toppings like Giancarlo's Mystery Meat and pepperoni; except it's not a pizza it's a cheeseburger, you got the cheese, the burger, the buns,and the lack of settings due to the game releasing in 2007.

No Name, No Fame: The Unsung Heroes of the Faculty: A Series of Faculty Interviews, by James Anglin 26'

Erica Apter came to education through the absolute greatest circumstances – getting fired. "I actually was let go from a job after college," she tells me. "And I sat down and started thinking about what I really like doing. And I love reading, and I love writing, and I thought to myself, what is something that would allow me to be involved with that every single day for the rest of my life? And I came up with teaching."

Having already taught at a public school in Atlanta for 3.5 years, then a Philadelphia charter cyber school for 4 years, Erica first became aware of Solebury on a job hunt, and her appreciation for the school started early and grew fast. She describes Solebury as "the best school [she has] ever taught at." But what in particular draws her in?

She speaks warmly of watching "the students and the teachers waving hi to each other and calling the teachers by their first names. The culture here is just incredible, it's so supportive, and you even see some kids growing up on campus, some of the faculty's kids. And it's just…it's an amazing community."

Having previously worked in middle schools, Erica's time at Solebury has been her first experience teaching high school, and she vastly prefers her current experience. Explaining that her favorite part of teaching is "definitely forming relationships with students," she tells me that "just fun getting to know everyone, and connecting with students about different thing," which lends itself to Solebury's friendly and informal culture.

Erica works in the Bridge program, teaches Foundations English 11 and leads the Rock Climbing afterschool activity. She explained that upon interviewing for the position, "I remember hearing about the Bridge program, and I remember thinking, if I had had this program when I was in high school, high school would have been a lot easier." Having ADHD and struggles with executive function, she "[sees] a lot of myself in the students that we help here, and it's really cool, cause I can kind of look on my experience and say "'well, what do I wish I had known?'"

Her colleagues and students laud her; Allison Jones, another Bridge teacher who shares a book club with her, told me that "Erica makes such incredible connections with her students. She really sees them and finds ways to approach their needs with genuine compassion and thoughtful support." Student Piper Garritson described her as "one of [her] safe spaces on campus. She is helpful academically and also emotionally. Erica is considerate, thoughtful, and can always joke along with me. I always look forward to seeing her in Bridge and the dining hall!"

Outside of school, Erica loves to read and spend time with her children – as she puts it, "pretty boring stuff." At Solebury, however, she provides support for her students and leaves an incredibly positive impact on the school every day.

NO NAME, NO FAME: THE UNSUNG HEROES OF THE FACULTY: A SERIES OF FACULTY INTERVIEWS, BY JAMES ANGLIN 26'

Ian Watson, Theater/Drama Instructor

On his experience at Solebury, Ian Watson tells me that the "stars definitely aligned" for him; funnily enough, when he first became interested in theater education, he wasn't even expecting to teach high schoolers, let alone work here.

Having attended a Master's program in fine arts and theater education at Virginia Commonwealth University (attending the same program as Erin Wallace, one of our college counselors), Ian "initially wanted to go into teaching college, but realized in order to do that, I was going to have to go on and get my PhD. So I'd much rather, you know, teach." And that he has done; Ian is on his seventh year as a full-time teacher, having taught at two independent schools before Solebury.

Last year, while looking for jobs, Ian found himself drawn to Solebury due to a multitude of factors, including its size, robust theater program, location, and most importantly, "the types of shows that Solebury did." As for what sets Solebury apart from other schools, Ian cites students being able to refer to him by his first name as a signifier of Solebury's informality. "In the last two schools I taught at, it was always like, Mr. Watson, which felt very, like, too formal for me." In studying, Ian typically called professors by their first names, so he views this as a "natural" progression from his experience in college.

Coming off of staging Sweeney Todd, Ian is currently working on producing the Spring Fringe Festival, in which 5 directors stage plays (some of which are written by students). Asked what he loves most about his job, he points to collaborating with his students and "seeing their growth from the beginning of working on a production to when we open, and just to see their confidence on stage is something that's really exciting." He also loves developing students' personal work, proudly proclaiming that all but one of the Fringe Festival shows are student written.
Besides teaching at Solebury, Ian loves going for walks around New Hope and Lambertville, watching movies, ("I try to watch at least 2 or 3 a week"), watching English Premier League soccer ("my favorite team is Chelsea. But they're not having a good year, unfortunately"), and playing Rocket League and Call of Duty with high school friends, which gives him "a way to keep up with them, even though we all kind of live very different lives."

Ian values teaching theatre for many reasons; for one, he values the shared community he works in, highlighting the process of working with kids and adding that "one of the most awesome things is like when I'm seeing a show that the kids are doing, and then I can go back in an intermission and talk to them, and they're like 'how am I doing? How's the show going?'" As for the field of theatre itself, Ian explains that "there's something about having live actors in front of you and...sharing that with the audience that feels very special to me."

Gabriella Cook, a student who has worked with Ian, described him as "incredibly hard-working and kind" and told me that "it has been a pleasure to work with him." She also expressed admiration for "all that he has done in his first year here," and we look forward to having him here for many years to come.

No Name, No Fame: The Unsung Heroes of the Faculty: A Series of Faculty Interviews, by James Anglin 26'

Don Kaplan: History Department Chair, US History Faculty

The Trump administration recently ordered an exhibit at the Philadelphia President's House, relating to the slaves of George Washington, be taken down, as the President believed the exhibit to reinforce "divisive, race-centered ideology." Our own Don Kaplan, Chair of the History Department, sharply disagreed.

Speaking to Jeff Werner of Patch at a protest in January, Don stated that "George Washington, who I believe was one of our greatest presidents, the ultimate champion of liberty, denied people their own freedom through enslavement. This fact cannot be ignored or forgotten. And this exhibit allows all who experience it to consider the same question, 'How did the Founders advocate for freedom while still enslaving others?'" Don led a protest alongside 48 students and "6 or 7 teachers," demonstrating that, as he told me, "at Solebury, we don't just talk...we act."

Now that the protest has come and gone, and a federal judge has ordered the exhibition reinstalled, I spoke with Don about the nature of protest in this important time in our nation's history. As America has long been criticized for not properly reckoning with its history of oppression, I asked if he felt that we are in a particularly unique time with regards to this issue. "Suddenly it feels like we're going backwards," Don said. "I would say the last 20 years have been a fabulous time to teach, because we have been introducing so many different voices, reflecting so many different people's American experiences, and what's unique about this time is it seemed like on January 20th, 2025, DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) appeared to have been made illegal." While DEI programs are certainly not illegal, President Trump has done everything in his power to advocate against it, threatening educational institutions that rely on it.

So what can we do to combat this? Don stresses the importance of protest and advocacy, characterizing Solebury itself as a protest. "It was a protest against standardized teaching. It's a protest against teachers versus students. It's a protest against industrial education, which was very much the way to go in the 1920s. And instead, what they tried to create was kind of a working relationship." Don lauds Solebury's attitude of putting the student first over the teacher, and declares that "part of the tradition of Solebury means that you are a rejecter. You're gonna reject something."

Don also holds the power of community in high esteem, celebrating Solebury's backing of the protest; "We never could have done this if it weren't for Kat McIntosh, my partner in the Peace and Social Justice Club. She and I work together. She's the one who put the reading packet together that the students read and teach in. People drove, teachers drove vans down there. We had almost 50 kids go. So 50 kids took a day out of school to go do it. It really was a full community experience."

As I finished this interview, I realized that "We the People" are perhaps Don Kaplan's three favorite words in the English language. He embodies Solebury's commitment to organizing and taking action when necessary, and he constantly stresses the importance of standing up for what we know is right. Discussing the exhibition's reinstatement, Don told me that "this is rarely the way protests work; it's a process, it's a long, long process. And you know, we gotta keep going out."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH: JACK HUANG 26'

Solebury is known for its talented and passionate student body, and we're certainly proud to add an award-winning filmmaker to our list.

Hailing from China, his name is JianZhang Huang, and he also goes by Jack; his most recent film was produced to demonstrate his talent as he applied to colleges, as recalled by Kathryn deSloovere, one of Solebury's film teachers who assisted in its pre-production. Upon entering production, little did he know that his film, titled "Brush Against a Comet", would go on to receive the top prize of Best Narrative Film at the Philadelphia Youth Film Festival.

As Jack describes it, the film is "pretty simple," concerning a high school senior from a Chinese small city who skips school to watch a comet. Asked to share the original inspiration for his film, he recalls his best friend from elementary school; "I used to be what people would call a well-behaved kid," he explains, "that kid who always followed the rules and was afraid of making mistakes. But my friend was totally the opposite. He was willing to take risks and break the rules, and I was really drawn to that."

Inspired by Jiang Wen's In the Heat of the Sun (a Chinese film that Jack adores for "how it captures the psychology of teenagers"), Brush Against a Comet is clearly deeply personal for Jack; in an introduction he filmed for the short he explains that it was filmed in his hometown, and describes the lead character as a "reflection" of his childhood best friend. I was curious to see how he viewed film as an art form. In his view, film is fundamentally "about how filmmakers see the world and understand life, and communicate with the audience through the film, and I think film can also expand people's life experience."

In terms of crafting film, Jack describes production as his favorite part of the filmmaking process. "You have done the script, shot list, but you need to bring the camera down, you need a shot in real life, and people work together." He credits Solebury teachers for their assistance, particularly Kathryn deSloovere for assisting him with screenwriting and Brian Pearson for helping with set up subtitles and suggesting that he submit the film to a film festival.

Speaking with both teachers, and they both laud his talent and drive. Kathryn, who helped him brainstorm the film's story, characterizes him as "thorough and creative" and praises his ability to "communicate to his peers and crew what [he wishes] to create," an important skill in leading a film crew." Brian similarly compliments his leadership skills and "calm and commanding presence," describing him as a "very pragmatic person [who] deals with what's in front of him very well."

As for what he's developing right now, Jack is mainly focusing on applying to colleges, but he continues to nurture his passion for filmmaking, and intends to "keep watching films and write stories." Jack is clearly a deeply talented individual, and having already produced a short film that Brian described as a "testament to his growth," he surely has a bright future ahead of him.

Letter from the Editor,

As we present this April edition of The Scribe, we remain grounded in a simple but powerful goal: to reflect Solebury as it truly is—dynamic, evolving, and deeply diverse. Our community is made up of a wide range of voices, experiences, and perspectives, and this publication strives to honor that richness in every story we tell.

In these pages, you will find more than just updates and events—you will find reflections of identity, explorations of culture, and conversations that matter. Whether highlighting student achievements, engaging with important social issues, or capturing the everyday moments that define life on campus, The Scribe is committed to presenting Solebury through a lens that is inclusive, thoughtful, and authentic.

We believe that storytelling has the power to build connection and understanding. By amplifying a variety of voices, we hope to foster a stronger sense of belonging and encourage meaningful dialogue within our school community.

To our readers, thank you for taking the time to engage with this issue. We hope you find something that resonates with you, challenges you, or simply brings you a moment of joy. We are grateful for your continued support and hope you enjoyed this April edition of The Scribe.

Warmly,
Keson Bullock-Brown 15'