VOICE

The International School of Amsterdam's Student Paper

Seniors Leave ISA with a BANG

Photos Courtesy of Ari Economon

Last week, ISA students and parents who arrived at school in the morning had quite the shock seeing cavemen, Romans and hippies dancing through the school. The occasion? The 12th graders' last day of school and their "Night at the Museum" themed senior prank.

Senior pranks have long been a tradition at many schools around the world, with departing students taking part in a large scale stunt on their last day. But ISA 12th graders have been known to take their antics one step further, with the entire school being turned into a literal zoo for example, and this year was no different. Incoming students and parents were immediately accosted by cavemen the second they walked into the foyer, whacked by foam sticks and sprayed with water guns. Passing through the cafeteria, community members met Roman emperor Caesar, were forced through a gauntlet and pelted with Caesar salad. Finally, up stairs was a full Hippy party complete with a live band.

Of course, these were only the portions of the prank that affected the entire school. Individual classrooms were also affected, with results ranging from humorous to downright cynical. Mr. Durning, a chemistry teacher, found a teepee in his classroom, while Dutch teacher Mr. Hogenelst was treated to an inflatable pool with herring inside. Plastic geese were place in upper school principal Mr. Sanders' office, and he remarked "I don't want any future grades getting any terrible ideas about live geese in coming years."

After the prank had ended (9:45 AM), the entire upper school met in an assembly to bid farewell to soon to depart students. Performances included a song by the choir and a speech by Award scheme coordinator Mr. Gillety. Every grade twelve pupil received a flower and a handcrafted wooden shoe as a memory of Holland. Rounding off the assembly, high school president Hugh Huyton summed up his experience in front of fellow seniors. "I've had a great time at ISA" he said, "but now I'm looking at you 11th graders. You've got big shoes to fill."

By Ari Economon

ALSO INSIDE: | A Modern Fairytale | Pi day | Clash Royale | Swimming and Basketball NECIS

Editor's Note

Dear ISA,

What a great month it's been!

Looking back after spring break, it's been a busy few weeks. NECIS basketball players and swimmers went to their respective tournaments and did a great job, with a number of wins overall. ISA's musicians also had several impressive performances, taking part in the choir and instrumental contests around the world and even hosting a choir contest of their own. Finally, and most notably of all, the seniors left with a bang to end their ISA careers, leaving the school a mess and our current juniors' big shoes to fill. You can read more about all these events and more in this edition of the Voice.

Of course, things happen beyond ISA, and we address that in this issue. In-house gaming expert Gabriele brings you the latest on Supercell's Clash Royale in his article, while movie critic Moses keeps you up to date on the silver screen in the film column. Voice journalists also attended a plethora of concerts, school events and other venues to bring you their views on what's going on.

With the year coming to a close, however, it's easy to forget everything that's happening in the next few months. Student council elections are coming up for the upper school, with a slate of candidates looking to win positions as presidents, VPs and treasures. Make sure you look into the candidates and see what each brings to the table so that you can come out and support one of them on May 10th (the day of the vote). Spring NECIS tournaments will also take place this month: good luck to all of ISA's golfers, runners, softball players and football players from us. To round out this packed season, don't forget that final exams are taking place in the first week of June for high school students, as well IB exams for 12th graders in the third week of May.

Whatever you're doing, have a great last few weeks and enjoy the spring weather,
Your Editor-in-Chief,
Ari Economon

Who We Are...

VOICE is the International School of Amsterdam's upper school student publication. We are grade 6-12 students who meet each week at lunch on Thursdays for publication planning and development – there is no journalism class that supports the project. We commit our time and energy to support our school, our community, and our own growth as thinkers and writers.

We welcome your letters. We welcome your article contributions. We welcome corrections that you wish to alert us to. Send all communications to Ms. Sabine Henrichsen-Schrembs (shenrichsen@isa.nl), the project faculty advisor, Editor-in-Chief Ari Economon (areconomon@isa.nl), or drop a note into the *VOICE* "suggestion/question" box outside room 189.

VOICE Team:
Moses Ochs, Clara Fast, Trinabh Banerjeree, Evie M. Portier, PB Balakrishnan, Robert Brighton, Roos Creyghton, Ari Economon (editor-in-chief), and Luca Santarelli & Gabriele Cepparulo (senior layout). Missing: Lisa Klaassen.

Want to improve your writing? Report on ISA issues and events? Get your name in the paper? If, so join *VOICE*! Meetings for 2016 are every Thursday at lunch, and we welcome any new applicants from grade 6-12. Remember, you can also send in specific articles to Ari Economon or Sabine Henrichsen-Schrembs.

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VOICE is available as a digital download (PDF) on upper school Final Site link.

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Oman Festival of Choir

Four days spent in sunny Oman - from the 16th till the 20th of March, I participated in the Festival of Choirs hosted by the American International School of Muscat, to sing with students from across the world. We arrived pretty late and thus decided to call it a day. We woke up early to visit the Grand Mosque and the Mutrah Souk (marketplace/bazaar, similar to the ones in Morocco or Turkey). For the rest of the day, we decided to relax by the poolside and beach after a much deserved repose from our long trip (a journey of approximately 10 hours in total). The weather during these couple of days was hard to beat as it was 33 degrees daily, with sunshine and a few short lasting showers of tropical rain. On Friday morning we made our way to the school where we would meet the other singers, choir directors and the renowned conductor, Dr. Edith Copley. Dr. Copley is currently a Regents' Professor and Director of Choral Studies at Northern Arizona University, where she conducts the highly acclaimed Shrine of Ages Choir. She also teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting and graduate choral literature.

Friday and Saturday were physically and mentally demanding as we would be singing from 8 in the morning until 9 at night. However, I do not regret a second of it. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity with a conductor whose presence was a gift to us all. In order to warm up our voices, she would have us mimic all sorts of sounds, however odd they may be. After these exercises, all voices were warmed up, and we were excited and eager to devote the following two days to ameliorating our skills and executing the multicultural array of pieces.

Personally, I am extremely glad that I joined the Upper school choir this year, as I have been fortunate enough to

participate in both the choir and a trip to join other students who enjoy singing as much or more than I do.
Join the Upper School Choir Tuesdays after school and Fridays at lunch!

By Clara Fast

A Cappella Group "No Strings Attached" Visits ISA

ISA recently received a visit from a group of internationally renowned a cappella performers. The group, called "No Strings Attached", performed such classics as *How Sweet It Is* by Ray Charles and *Shut Up and Dance* by Walk the Moon.

"No Strings Attached" has existed as a group for over twenty years, founded and run by students of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. The name was originally meant to be farcical, a poke at the fact that a cappella performers use only their vocal cords and no "strings". Studying an eclectic range of subjects from biology to business to (appropriately) music, troupe members come together for around four hours every week to practice new songs and the techniques required to master them. They then travel the world, performing for a range of audiences including ISA.

The troupe will continue their tour at other schools in the Amsterdam area in the next few weeks before they travel home.

By Ari Economon

A long Assembly and a short question time

It is not everyday of the year that we get 2 periods taken out of our day in order to have an assembly, but then the group that was coordinating it is probably the biggest club and organizer run by students and parents. With a very important fashion show having just been organized, the green team seems to be making a big impact on the school.

This assembly was split into 3 parts. Various speakers talked about a different subject for about 45 minutes, each addressing a different issue that the green team is trying to tackle by starting with educating people at school.

The first speaker started off by talking about a problem that many people have heard of, which is the fact that there are large belts of trash or waste plastic known to be floating in the ocean. This, however, was expanded on significantly by the first speaker, who gave us an entire new dimension to the problem: In many cases, the plastic that takes up our ocean is very small, nearly the size of a sand particle. This makes the problem harder to tackle, because these particles can at some point be placed in reservoirs where freshwater is produced, and because these particles cannot be filtered, they become part of our drinking water. So in the end, the effect of plastic filled oceans is much closer to home than we may think.

The second speaker talked about a problem that we seem to hear very little about: The fact that the lifespan of most products we buy these days has been designed to decay and become damaged much faster. Our clothes, for example, are made up of fibres. If you take a t-shirt as an example, it is made up of very small plastic fibres which come off every time the t-shirt goes in the washing machine, which is why t-shirts degrade quicker than some other types of clothing. This speaker talked about how ways to recycle and reuse cotton and other materials would rebuild and reshape the fashion industry's reputation, since it currently holds spot number 2 as the most polluting industry on the planet.

The third speaker followed on from where the second had left off: He himself had created a Dutch brand of "borrowing jeans", the concept being a revolutionary one. You can simply borrow a pair of jeans for a year, paying a yearly subscription, and at the end of the year, you can give them back. They are then repaired/patched up, or recycled into a new pair of jeans, and in the process, it would cut the cost and amount of materials needed to create clothes. The idea is a very clever one, and it proves that the green team had selected very good guests.

Then came the 'question time', with lasted all of about 7 minutes, due to the fact that any questions we had had appeared to have been answered. The assembly ended and we headed off to our next period, with a different understanding of plastic, the pollutants of the world and jeans.
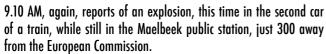
By Tom De Wolf

Courtesy of www.bestbrasov.ro

Brussels Terrorist Attacks: 22nd of March 2016

7.58 AM, reports of gunfire, followed by an explosion at Brussels International Airport. Students at ISA began walking into school, dropping off their coats, and heading to their classes. In my classroom, we had a substitute, and we had a study period to improve our Tedx Talks, that we would be presenting the following week. At about 8.45, BBC, *The New York Times* and *CNN* sent out alerts on their apps, an attack had occurred in Brussels. Facebook was flooded by images and videos of people escaping from the airport. Phones began to go off in my communications class. Around 9.00 AM, someone in the class asked, "Did you guys hear about the attacks in Brussels?"

Courtesy of www.scoopnest.com

9.10 AM, again, reports of an explosion, this time in the second car of a train, while still in the Maelbeek public station, just 300 away from the European Commission.
"Guys, this is really bad, over 20 people have been killed, and dozens injured". Everyone sat uncomfortably in their chairs. "Brussels just is across the border" another student chimed. We continued working on our projects. At 9.45, I texted my mother if any of our friends were currently visiting Brussels. She replied, two people, but both had contacted their families. I was amazed by how quickly everyone had heard about the attacks. We spend the 20 minute break talking about the attacks, and our classes. We did not know how to react. The attacks in Paris, a mere four hour train ride away from Schiphol International Airport, had occurred less than six months ago.

12.10 PM, Facebook offers the option to mark yourself safe if you are in Brussels.

"The death toll is 30 people", a girl mentioned while eating their sandwich. Bells rung, and the school day ended, but we could tell, things were a little different. I received a message from a friend a few days later; someone had popped a balloon in a restaurant, and everyone flinched. The impact did not end there, several of my friends are now afraid, or have even by their parents been disallowed, from using public transportation.

March 30th, 2016
It's been over ten days since the attacks in Brussels, and six days since the suicide bombing in Pakistan that killed over 90 people, and six months since the massacre in Paris. Over the weekend, my father and my sister travelled to Spain, and I asked my father if he believed it was such a good idea to travel in the wake of these events. I realised as I was asking the question that it was a silly one. If we put our lives on halt, and let fear make our decisions for us, we are giving these terrorists exactly what they want. The only way we as a community can retaliate here at ISA, is by remaining as we are. Unafraid to live our lives. An international community, whose main goal is to "Educate for international understanding". If we continue to learn as we are now, and continue to spread our ideas, and educate, we can prevent things like this from happening to us and the people we love. Education makes us rational, and offers us the opportunity to formulate our own ideas, ideas without hate. My heart is with the people in Brussels, Pakistan and with all the people living in the aftermath of the 262 terroristic acts that have occurred since the beginning of 2016 (as reported by *BBC* news). But my mind is at work with something else, learning.

Building my community, and delivering a Ted Talk for my communications class, a talk about finding happiness.

Caring for Humanity - Our Duty

As the refugee crisis increases, more drastic action is vital. Last weekend Wybe Harms, Alexander Meyers, Jorge Sobrino, Arman Sharafutdinov and I, along with advisor Mr. Storey, travelled to Luxembourg for the 2016 annual GIN Conference to represent the GIN Club at ISA. The theme was "Caring for Humanity- Our Duty".

GIN (Global Issues Network) is an annual conference normally held in Luxembourg during March, where many schools from across the world come to.

In the GIN Club at school, the main focus this year was human rights and freedoms. Many guest speakers came to the event, notably:
Pooran Desai representing Bioregional
Jasmin O'Hara representing The Worldwide Tribe
Cedric Javanaud representing Foundation Goodplanet
Aaron Jones representing Fikay Eco Fashion
Hind & Raed - Iranian Refugees

In total, 37 schools and institutions attended the annual conference. Our school in particular talked about bridging the divide between refugees and the country hosting them through IT Connections.

To better understand the issue we spoke of, GIN students including myself have been going to a refugee center close to school on a regular basis to meet migrants and assist them with any problems they may have. One issue that comes up quite frequently was a lack of basic IT skills, which is why we made that our focus. It may be easy for us to use basic software such as Google Translate, or make a Facebook account, but for someone who has just arrived from politically unstable Syria or Iraq, the same resources are much more difficult to acquire and use. This is why we must help.

At the end of each GIN Conference, each school must submit an action plan, when they stand up and present it to all the institutions and schools present.

Our action plan was to expand ISA's GIN Club (meetings are on Fridays at lunchtime- please join) and have a sports day with the refugees before the end of the year (more information will be given when the dates are confirmed).
That was it for GIN 2016. We'll be going again next year, so get involved and look forward to our upcoming events.

By Prabhanjan Balakrishnan

Courtesy of PB

Courtesy of PB

New Apple Device Releases

"Let's loop you in!" (Apple) On the 21st of March, *Apple* announced a lot. How much? Well, here's a list: Benefits for the environment, Liam, Apple Renew, CareKit, Apple Watch bands, iPhone SE, iPad Pro, and iOS 9.3. Also, they snuck in the topic of encryption (Apple v FBI anyone?). Phew, that is a lot of information! You'll find detailed information about each topic mentioned above below, so you can read what you find interesting. Here we go!

Benefits for the environment:
As with many companies, *Apple* has had its fair share of criticism over how much power it uses to keep data centers, factories, outlets and stores and host of other things powered. *Apple* made an ambitious goal to go 100% renewable, and according to their keynote, they are 93% renewable so far. In the US, everything they do is powered through renewables. Shocking!

Apple also unveiled "Liam", the robot that takes apart your phone and recycles it! It is now possible to recycle your old iPad, iPhone, iPod, or Mac. *Apple* will recycle it for you, using Liam (the robot), which will take your device apart, and re-use parts of the phone (gold and copper from the camera for example). The icing on the cake? *Apple* will now let you recycle your old *Apple* product for free, and you will get a reward for doing so! Apple also accepts old PC's.

CareKit:
Apple introduced a program called ResearchKit just about a year ago, which allowed doctors at universities and other healthcare professionals to research diseases and conditions through user data. It allowed these professionals to collect data from those who had diseases such as diabetes and Parkinson's, and put it together to create groundbreaking studies, and find out new results.

To enhance this, *Apple* released CareKit, so as to allow app developers to create apps to help care for those with diabetes and Parkinson's for example. 10,000 people registered to take part in a Parkinson's study. This became the biggest ever study of Parkinson's disease. With CareKit, you can collect data your health, which can then be shared with your doctor, your family or anyone you wish. *Apple* also used surgery recovery as an example. After surgery, the doctor should provide you with a list of things you must do in order to recover successfully. Sticking to these goals, mainly diets and certain amounts and types of exercise can be difficult. CareKit changes this. Using an app, all your post surgery needs are posted into the app. A checklist shows what you have done, and what you have left (using a cute little heart!). This data can be shared with your doctor, or anyone else to help you complete post surgical care!

Apple Watch Bands:
Apple also released new bands for the Apple Watch, including bands made out of woven nylon and a woven stainless steel mesh band known as the "Milanese Loop". These bands, as well as countless others have been made available, and are available to view and buy on the *Apple* website. Keep in mind that all these bands come in a variety of colors!

iPhone SE and iPad Pro:
The new iPhone was probably the most rumored product, and I am here to inform you that the rumors were indeed correct. Yes, the iPhone SE has appeared, and with it *Apple* goes back to the 4 inch phone lineup. This phone is the size of the iPhone 5s, but far more powerful.

Courtesy of www.technobuffalo.com

The iPhone SE has the A9X chip within it. This chip is also on the iPhone 6s! The chip gives the iPhone SE 2 times more CPU performance compared to the iPhone 5s, and 3 times faster GPU performance.

This 4 inch masterclass also has a 12 megapixel camera, capable of shooting 4K video. Live Photos and burst mode, slo-mo, time lapse video options are available. iPhone SE also comes with Touch ID, which you can use to pay in over 2 million stores, and also use it to pay on apps such as PayPal. iPhone SE arrives on the 31st of March. It is certainly a device to look forward to!

iOS 9.3

A much awaited update to the iOS system, it is and I quote "the biggest dot update we have ever made" (Greg Joswiak, *Apple*). After countless research studies, it is true: blue light from phones, tablets, computers, TV's and many more devices can affect your sleep patterns, and how well you sleep. *Apple* introduced Night Shift. This innovation changes your screen color to the warmer end of the color spectrum the later it gets in the day, and then changes back to the regular "blue light" color in the morning. How? iOS 9.3 checks the current time on your device, and your geo-location (using location services), and slowly changes the color. This should help you sleep better, if you are exposed to far too much blue light.

Apple has realized that we store some personal things on Notes. Now you can 'lock' any note you want. This means that to read the note, you need to use Touch ID or fill in a passcode. Handy?

Apple also made additions to CarPlay. You can now use Maps to find coffee shops, garages, gas stations, cafes and other places in your car. Also, select songs handpicked by experts on Apple Music!

So that's it. All the information from the "Let's loop you in" keynote by *Apple*. Hopefully you found this information beneficial in some way.

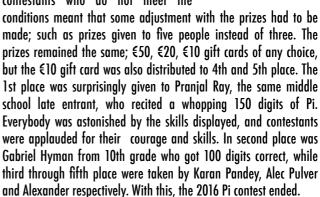By Trinabh Banerjee

March 14th or 3.14?!?!?

3.14... When you first hear this, what comes to mind? A lot of you will say Pi (the ratio of diameter and its circumference in a circle) which is commonly known as 3.14, but it is a bit different in this case. It is March 14th written in mathematical form. For those who said Pi, don't get too sad because March 14th is commonly known as Pi day.

Pi day is the most well-known celebration day of mathematical constant Pi (π). As the three significant figures or digits is 3, 1 and 4, Pi day is celebrated on March 14th. Originally, Pi day was supposed to be celebrated in March 14th 3:09 pm (=3.14.15:09). MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) holds strongly to this tradition, mailing their application decision letters on exactly March 14th 15:09 every year. We can only say as expected from one of the top universities in the world.

There are several ways to celebrate Pi day; to eat a physical pie, to memorize digits of Pi and even to make a Pi chain constructed of colourful paper loops. All three celebrations were held at ISA. Like many schools, ISA also held "Pi Digit Memorization Competition", where contestants attempt to recite a maximum of Pi digits from memory. Organized by the Math department, judges included math teachers Mr. Panontin, Ms. Bodily, and Mr. Wiesner. One key rule was that if you were to make a mistake while speaking out the digits, the judges would not stop you but instead not count the digits that come afterwards even if they were correct. This added a sense of suspense to proceedings, as audience members could not know whether a participant had made a mistake.

The original contest included only the participation of upper school students, with middle school students holding their competition

during the assembly on the following day. The high schoolers presented during lunch time in the annex. However, Pranjal Ray, a student in 8th grade, did not manage to participate during the middle school assembly, which meant he had to join the high schoolers. With this, the competition was altered and the participation of contestants who do not meet the conditions meant that some adjustment with the prizes had to be made; such as prizes given to five people instead of three. The prizes remained the same; €50, €20, €10 gift cards of any choice, but the €10 gift card was also distributed to 4th and 5th place. The 1st place was surprisingly given to Pranjal Ray, the same middle school late entrant, who recited a whopping 150 digits of Pi. Everybody was astonished by the skills displayed, and contestants were applauded for their courage and skills. In second place was Gabriel Hyman from 10th grade who got 100 digits correct, while third through fifth place were taken by Karan Pandey, Alec Pulver and Alexander respectively. With this, the 2016 Pi contest ended.

Though there were only a handful of those who memorised some of the digits of Pi, it is undoubtful that there are more than those who participated in the contest, who remember some of the digits of Pi. Therefore, until next year, try to at least remember a few more digits of Pi. This would not only benefit yourself, but you can also celebrate the Pi day in the future.

By Kelvin Choi

A Modern Fairytale: Mechanics and the Millennial

The fables of our coddled youths have been deftly tucked away in our bookcases, but perhaps Aesop's fiction applies to our lives more so now than ever. In today's quick-paced, high-tech race for a successful life, does the tortoise still beat the hare?

The instant-gratification mentality consumes the millennial, the generation born between the early 1980s to 2000s. Over the years, the term has been coined by many conventions. The Digital Generation. Echo-Boomers. Hipsters. On a more condemning tone, we have been christened arrogant, lazy, and conceited. But this is not entirely our intrinsic fault. We have been spoon-fed and pampered by our Baby Boomer parents. Rewards are no longer reserved for milestones; children are granted trophies simply for participating.

Growing up in a whirlwind of Fast-Food, Instant Messaging and the high-priced free Wifi, more and more challenges are facing Generation Y. Gone are the days when satisfaction follows a hard-earned day of work. Patience is a faraway notion overtaken by our newest notification.

The Quarter-Life Crisis is becoming an increasingly common phenomenon for University students, and one may ponder whether this is a consequence of the times we live in. For those wondering, this crisis resembles habitual hangovers, but instead of following a night of binge-drinking, it follows our childhood. Amidst the chaos of partying, studying and applying for their first job in the 'real world', more and more 20 year olds are experiencing the enigmatic symptom of falling behind the hare called Life. With all the joy the Internet brings us on a daily basis, mass-communication has quickly turned University and Job applications into a stringent competition. Contrasting to the aforementioned instant-gratification mentality, societal pressures projected on adolescents are greater than ever. Whilst our forefathers could idle their ways through young adulthood, we are expected to ace the school system, have a social life and work a three-week internship - all before applying to College.

As the millennial grows older, childhoods are getting shorter and our never-fully satisfied selves are longing for something tactile that will make us feel whole again. Only we don't know exactly what it is we're looking for. Humanity is a feat just as fragile as our mortal selves. At the rate that technology is evolving, dehumanisation is inevitable, as our hearts begin to beat a mechanised echo of our surroundings.

So what is there to do - aren't we all just destined to become ticking robots? Well, a triumph of the Digital Age is that the millennial is a great problem solver. Although we may be subjected to pampered youths and become delirious under pressure, one thing technology has shown us is that we are capable of building something much greater than ourselves. If we can create a network as large and complex as the Internet, which Finland has recently appointed a 'basic human right', surely we can salvage the strings of our humanity. Take a break from feeding your mind information. Instead, nurture your soul. Read the book that has been waiting for you at the back of your bookcase. Live those moments that your childhood self dreamed about.

By Lisa Klaassen

Courtesy of wallpaperscraft.com

Apple v. FBI Case

The author agrees with *Apple*, however he has tried to make this article as factual and neutral as possible. Any opinions expressed are solely the author's own.

The case that has taken the tech world by storm: *Apple* v. FBI. The details are murky, but the writer will aim to clarify the situation in time before the court case on the 22nd of March. So let's begin.

The terror attack in the U.S. in San Bernardino, CA, last December shocked us all. In the attack on an Inland Regional Center, 14 people were killed and 22 seriously injured. The perpetrators were killed by law enforcement shortly after. The FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) opened an investigation into why this atrocious act was committed. It call came to a head at the beginning of February this year, when the FBI asked *Apple* Inc. to unlock an iPhone 5c that belonged to one of the terrorists. Apple refused.

On February 9th 2016, the FBI announced that their experts were unable to unlock an iPhone 5c that belonged to one of the terrorists. The FBI cited iOS 9, with its advanced security features, and user data encryption. They immediately contacted *Apple*, and asked them to unlock the phone. How *Apple* would achieve this is explained later.

Apple refused, because unlocking the phone was in direct violation of their pledge never to undermine their product security features. In response the FBI successfully requested a federal judge to pass a court order, ordering *Apple* to unlock the phone. *Apple* appealed, and a court case was until recently, pending.

Point of View: The FBI

The FBI has asked *Apple* to create a new version of iOS, which would essentially create a "backdoor" into the iPhone. A backdoor is a program which allows the user (in this case *Apple*) to get into a device, bypassing security features. If it were to be made visual: Imagine a house. You have the frontdoor (the password and other security features), and then you have a garden, probably with a backdoor. If you imagine the iPhone as the house, with the password being the frontdoor, the FBI has asked *Apple* to create a key allowing the FBI to get in the "house" through the back (the garden).

The FBI want *Apple* to create this backdoor mainly because they do not know whether a certain security setting has been enabled: "Delete all data after 10 failed passcode attempts." Should this setting be enabled, all data on that phone would be deleted after 10 failed passcode attempts. The iPhone is locked with a 4 digit passcode, with 10,000 possible combinations. Should the setting not be enabled, each time the passcode is entered wrong, a "cooldown" period starts, getting longer and longer until a new attempt at entering a passcode can be made. The FBI cannot use the cloud, because most of the information they want is still on the phone i.e not backed up in the cloud. The government say that the backdoor, should it be created, would only be used once on this

phone. The FBI also allege that *Apple* is more concerned about profit and money, rather than safety and security. Apple denies this.

Point of View: *Apple* Inc.

Apple argues that creating a backdoor would be "blatantly dangerous" and would undermine key security features that protect data. It says that should a backdoor be created, it could be hacked, no matter how much protection is put around it. In the digital world, no information is fully safe. Should a person with malicious intent be able to hack into the backdoor, it would be disastrous.

Think of it this way: a backdoor is literally like a master key to all the bank vaults (iPhones). Should a person with malicious intent be able to get their hands on that key, they could use it to hack into any iPhone they wished. Who's to say they couldn't change some code and remake the backdoor to be able to hack into any device in the world? *Apple* argues that this backdoor would not be able to be kept safe, as everything is vulnerable to hacking in the digital world. Should the backdoor be created, the US Government could pass legislation allowing law enforcement to use the back door again and again. Tim Cook, CEO of *Apple,* personally wrote a message on the *Apple* website outlining why *Apple* was opposing the FBI and the US Government.

In it he explains why a building a backdoor would be dangerous. The FBI is basing its case on the All Writs Act of 1789 to justify its case. Should *Apple* lose the court case, the government could order *Apple* to unlock many other phones that are under investigation, using the All Writs Act, as justification. The government could order *Apple* to create surveillance software to intercept and read messages, and personal data. It must be noted that the NSA (National Security Agency) has used controversial monitoring systems in the past, including mass surveillance, and warrantless wiretapping in an attempt to 'thwart terrorism'. It also used programs to bypass encryption in the past. But going back, *Apple* says that such a breach is "unacceptable" and should never happen. Should the backdoor be created through a court order, it would set a dangerous precedent. *Apple* countered the FBI argument that it would be only used once by saying "There is no way to guarantee such control". In the digital world, almost anything is possible, including hacking, and

Main Story

So back to the main story. The case was supposed to come to a head on the 22nd of March, when a crucial court hearing was planned. If *Apple* is ordered to hack into the iPhone through a backdoor, it could potentially undermine key security features that prevent our personal information (photos, videos, bank details, personal apps, contacts, messages, personal conversations etc.) from being at risk from any person with malicious intent.

On the 21st of March, the FBI requested that the court postpone the hearing. It had found a third party willing to to help them unlock the iPhone. And then, on the 28th, the FBI announced that it had unlocked the phone. As a result the court case was dropped. The FBI has access to all the information on the iPhone. Jim Comey, director of the FBI, says that the technique used would only ever be used on this phone. This was and is simply incorrect, as the FBI has now set a precedent: that law enforcement and higher government agencies can force technology companies to unlock devices, and have a way to back their demand up, a backdoor. The US government has the ability to unlock any iPhone that they wished. This is already taking place, as the US government is pressuring *Apple* to again unlock phones currently being searched for a variety of reasons. The debate about our security vs our privacy will continue for the long run, but for now, it looks like the FBI has set that very precedent that the tech world and its supporters were afraid of.

By Trinabh Banerjee

Movie Column

Courtesy of www.joblo.com

Upcoming Movies:
The Jungle Book (April 21st)
An orphan boy is raised in the jungle with the help of a pack of wolves, a bear, and a black panther.

Angry Birds: The Movie (March 25th)
Three birds (Jason Sudeikis, Josh Gad, Danny McBride) investigate the mysterious arrival of pigs to their island paradise.

Captain America: Civil War (April 28th)
Political interference in the Avengers' activities causes a rift between former allies Captain America and Iron Man.

Courtesy of marvelcinematicuniverse.wikia.com

Hardcore Henry (April 21st)
A first-person action film from the eyes of Henry, who's resurrected from death with no memory. He must discover his identity and save his wife from a warlord with a plan to bio-engineer soldiers.

Snowden (May 12th)
CIA employee Edward Snowden leaks thousands of classified documents to the press.

Monthly Movie Facts:

The first US films to be released on VHS where *The Sound of Music*, *M.A.S.H.* and *Patton*. This was in 1977 and it costed approximately 50 to 90 dollars to purchase.
In early drafts of the *Ghostbusters* screenplay it was meant to take place in the future.
James Cameron, the director of *Titanic*, has visited the wreck of the Titanic with expensive submarines several times and in total he has accumulated more time there than the actual real life passengers of the Titanic.
Steven Spielberg refused to get payed for *Schindler's List* since he believed it to be "blood money".
Dr. Seuss hated the film adaptation of "The Cat in The Hat" so much that they banned all studios from

Courtesy of en.wikipedia.org

Rules We Live By:
The Dress Code and its Underlying Messages

The dress code that concerns the Pink Castle is not a very controversial topic; the set of rules specifying the garb we are supposed to adhere to is barely enforced and does not play an intricate role in our daily life, one would think. This does not seem to be entirely the case: an existence of a limit of the ways we can express ourselves, even though not entirely imposed, still restricts students.

A member of Student Council, agrees; "people should get the chance to express their individuality [through clothing]". Part of growing up and living at this age revolves around finding out who we are, as humans, and how we like to present ourselves. This could, in one way, be done through our fashion choices. Even if one did not want to make a statement with the things that they wear, there should be a sense of comfortability, which can be created by wearing things one can feel pleasant and relaxed in. I mean, really, we already stress enough about school-related issues; should we feel uncomfortable because we have to be scared of wearing spaghetti straps? Of wearing something that is too tight for other people's comfort?

This does not even seem to be the main problem, however - what enrages the majority of those who care about this issue is the sexism integrated in the laws we are forced to follow. "What I have noticed is that with girls", my anonymous source says, " there are many regulations in terms of clothing, and with boys there are fairly none..." Some believe that if the dress code is not enforced, there is no problem. She believes, however, "that the fact that they even exist in the first place is concerning."

Mostly, it is important to look at how a dress code affects the individual: my source explained her experience: "My teacher came up to me and told me to dress more appropriately for school; I disagree with that statement. I personally believe that the things that I wear do not affect people in school and that people should not tell me what to wear, especially if they are not inappropriate in any way."

The dress code of ISA is meant to help provide a comfortable working environment, at it is a common belief that some people feel uncomfortable when there are others in 'inappropriate clothing', which would then distract those students from their work. This proves to be paradoxical, as girls have to worry about being sexualised by their teachers and judged by their peers, often publicly. If someone cannot concentrate on writing an essay or on solving an equation because my skirt is too short or too much of my shoulders is exposed, I should not suffer because of it.

I asked a group of boys about the dress code and what they thought about it, to which they all responded incredulously with, "there is a dress code?", unaware of the regulations that haunt most girls. When I asked girls, they replied with stories of teachers asking them to 'cover up', which often happens publicly, in the middle of class, where girls are often continuously embarrassed or self-conscious.

In our society (happily not our school, for the most part) girls are silenced and belittled for the comfort of men, and some are afraid that we are beginning to see a pattern. Even though it may not be society's intention to implant yet another double standard, this is what is happening right before our educated eyes .

So, we live on. There are many arguments over what to do about this dress code, but Student Council cannot do anything about it now. Possibly one of the candidates participating in the next election will make a change: we can only hope.

By Roos Creyghton

Courtesy of arhsnewspaper.com

The Dawn of Clash Royale: The Awakening

You have probably heard, unless you live inside a cave, which is inside a bigger cave, which is found under the sea and only appears to visitors once every full moon (you get the idea...), the new game for mobile devices "Clash Royale" has been released on the 2nd of March by the Finnish company Supercell (spoiler alert) who are also responsible for giving life to "Clash of Clans".

When a game is referred to as "for mobile devices" it is very often accompanied by a fair amount of scepticism by the gaming community. This is because most of the games on iOS and android devices tend to be fairly simple (not regarding the level of difficulty but rather the complexity and the structure) and are intended to be just a way to pass time when bored on the bus or (spoiler alert) during class...but obviously no student would dare not to pay attention during class (wink wink).

However this is not always the case, and the newly released *Clash Royale* is the proof. This game is an arcade where players worldwide challenge each other in 3 minute matches with their decks in order to win trophies which will allow them to move up in the arenas and unlock new cards. During a game, the aim is to destroy the enemy's towers by summoning troops (which are represented by cards) which costs elixir; the trick is to choose the right troops at the right time, keeping in mind that you can have a maximum of 10 elixir, and it will recharge slowly.

There are three types of cards: common, rare and epic,(and yes, a card's rareness is directly proportional to the number of chests you have to open before you finally give up and quit playing the game). Players can get new cards by opening chests which they can obtain by winning games (or simply buy with gems), to prevent users from playing consecutively for days, chests take several hours to open (or you can simply skip with gems). As players get more copies of the same card they can upgrade them, improving their abilities and strengths.It is also possible to buy cards with coins (or with gems...), since everyday 3 random cards (a common, a rare and an epic) are put on sale to facilitate upgrading.

There are some similarities between "Clash royale" and "Clash of clans" in terms of the appearance (however *Clash Royale* has a more medieval-ish look), (spoiler alert). Apart from the prefix of the name, they also share some of the characters and the concepts of trophies or elixir.

Another key feature that the two games share is that they are both free, however they promote the purchase of gems with real money in order to skip the annoying waiting. For this reason the application has often been referred to as a "Pay to win" instead of a "free to play", asserting the idea that players who pay are facilitated to win (haters never logout).

In addition, just like in its predecessor where it was possible to join "clans" with other players and compete with other clans (hence the name, "Clash of Clans"; you're welcome), it is also possible in the new application to do so, and, what's more, the teammates can donate cards to each other, making upgrading of the cards easier.

As simple as it may seem, *Clash Royale* requires a certain level of strategy and understanding of the dynamics of the various troops in order to advance and acquire more and more trophies.
Now you can use the knowledge you have received in this article and show off your *Clash Royale* skills (girls love that) to your friends.

PS: The prince is way too overpowered!

By Gabriele Cepparulo

Courtesy of www.mobipicker.com

Four Forty Five

Every Monday and Thursday morning, at exactly four forty five, an alarm goes off. I throw myself out of bed and groggily put on a swimsuit. Then I find clothes, and layer them on as much as possible. Pro tip: It's always cold at five in the morning. Then I drag myself down the stairs into my kitchen. On good days, I turn on all the lights I can find, make myself a smoothie, or eat an apple. On normal days, I sit on my stairs in the dark, staring out the window; trying to remember being asleep and warm in my bed. At this point I'm exhausted, but I know I can't go back to bed, I'm already too awake for it. There, on the stairs, I wait until everyone is ready to get into the car, and drive to the pool. The radio is always relatively lively at this point, and as my siblings and I stare out of the window, our minds wander off, thinking of our plans for the day. Every morning, after I've stepped out of the car and grabbed my back from the freezing cold trunk of the car, I run inside. It's always either cold or raining. Sometimes both. Mostly both. Inside I'm greeted by the sleepy, familiar faces of my team. As the rest trickle inside, we groan about how little sleep we got the night before, laugh at the people who will inevitably skip the training, and then jump in the pool. Everything before that moment is routine; it doesn't matter.

I wake up twice a week at four forty five in the morning to swim for the ISA swim team because it gets me closer to that moment. When I touch the water, I'm not tired anymore. I'm at home. I swim lap after lap, slowing down a little for my warm up, and then the training starts. "4x100 metres of freestyle, race pace? No problem at all." "10x 50 fly? "Sounds fine." Nothing but the water matters. When I'm swimming, all I'm worried about is breathing, and my flip turns. I'm not worried about school, my friends, or my CAS hours. Every once in awhile, we take a break for a minute, and we laugh at ourselves. We talk about how tired we are, or how we have no idea if our legs will support us when we step out of the pool. I always think about how special the people I'm swimming with are. How amazing it is that a bunch of international high school kids, some in the IB, some preparing for it, are willing to drag themselves out of bed twice a week to swim. In Dutch, there's a word for it. "Doorzettingsvermogen", which directly translates to a mentality in which you are able to keep pushing yourself. I think these people, these swimmers, are some of the best examples of "Doorzettingsvermogen". I personally know no other group of students who are so focused on constantly pushing themselves academically, physically and mentally. These students thrive on improving themselves, and the best part about it is, we couldn't function any other way. We're wired to push ourselves. The high we get, after finishing a difficult training and stepping into the showers, is unmeasurable to anything else.

For about fifteen high schoolers at ISA, jumping into the pool that early is our release. And recently, the early mornings paid off. At NECIS this year, every high school swimmer was placed in the top eight in at least one if not more of their races. If that's not already amazing, every time an ISA swimmer was in the pool, every member of the team was there to cheer for them. The team ranges from third graders to students in their final moments of the Diploma Programme, and that's what makes us special. When I joined the team in fourth grade, after moving to Amsterdam from New York City, the older kids where the first to make me feel like I belonged. They cheered me on during my races, and let me eat with them in the cafeteria after practice. I'm doing my best now to continue this with the younger swimmers on the team this year, in the hopes they will do the same for others when they are older. Every day, after swimming, we sit in the cafeteria and eat. Some of us help each other study for upcoming tests, and others do homework. Although we don't always sit all together, the little kids call at us from the other side of the room, asking us questions and laughing. During the school day, we smile at each other with our tired eyes, and know that we're not alone with our aching legs and our tired heads. The ISA swim team is a family; my family.

To people who have never swum competitively I can understand that when you see the swimmers in your morning classes, with their wet hair and the rings under their eyes (a combination of lack of sleep and the impression of the goggles), you thank goodness you had the luxury of sleeping in. But our secret is, we're the lucky ones.

By Evie Michèle Portier

Courtesy of Evie Michèle Portier

More NECIS Swimming Pictures

NECIS - A Grand Event

As we approach the end of the basketball season, the NECIS tournament is something that everybody looks forward to. As always, this year's event was held in Antwerp, Belgium, from March 13-15, and it was a 3-day action-packed affair.

Four ISA teams usually go to the tournament - two teams each for Junior Varsity and Varsity (boys and girls). Usually, each team has two games on each day, leaving everyone with plenty of time to cheer their friends, re-establish connections with old friends (and basketball foes) from other schools, and just "chill". But, as always, the big thrill is in the competition and the basketball games themselves. There were many close games that had people gritting their teeth waiting for an outcome.

JV Boys had plenty of close games. However, the first one was a real crusher. With ease, they beat Hamburg with Gabe Hyman's fast and furious drives to the basket. Once he got the ball, nothing could stop him- not even a brick wall! Their next opponent was Antwerp, who slowly but surely grew as the season passed on. Although the JV Boys have beaten them numerous times in the past before NECIS, this time,they just slacked a little. But nevertheless, they had a close victory against Antwerp with the only overtime game out of all their games. The next day, everybody was fired up and ready to go again. Their first game was Copenhagen. Copenhagen was also a close game. These boys like to keep things tight and intense. Despite the tense moments, the JV Boys won yet again. Their next game was ASH. ISA has always had trouble with ASH. They have always lost to them. However, over the season, they got better and brought the score closer. However, during NECIS, the whole game turned around! Prabhanjan Balakrishnan (PB) shot a few clutch 3-pointer shots! Dane Isherwood had some amazing drives. Let us not forget the mind-blowing ankle-breakers he made! In the end, it was a close game, but yet again, history was made for the ISA JV Boys as they had finally beat ASH. The next day were the semifinals. On the third and final day, the boys were fired up and ready to go. ISA also had a rough history with Düsseldorf. ISA has always lost to Düsseldorf during the most crucial times. However, this time, there were some crucial shots made at the right times. PB made yet another 3-pointer in the last few minutes of the game followed by a few technical fouls, which lead them to the finals. The finals were where the real tension lied. The score was close and intense throughout the entire game. With Dane with a few clutch free throw shots and some amazing penetrations towards the basket, the JV Boys kept their heads held high and fought until the end. In the end, their hard work payed off and they ended up winning the finals!!! For the first time in the four years that I recall, the JV Boys Bball team had won NECIS! This was a truly historic and memorable NECIS for the JV Boys and will remain in ISA history for a long time. Varsity Boys had an excellent tournament. Their first game was a loss, but nevertheless, they kept their heads held high. Similar to the JV Boys, many of their games were extremely close and just as thrilling and intense. After the first loss, they went on a winning streak all the way to the final. The first and last were against the same team - Luxembourg. Luxembourg was one of the toughest teams in the Varsity boys league in NECIS this year. During the first game between ISA and NECIS, the ISA Varsity boys were leading much of the way. However, they just did not have a solid grip on that lead and Luxembourg slowly made their way back to win the game. In the final, Luxembourg used their familiarity with our Varsity Boys' game, and used that to their advantage, leading Varsity Boys into a solid second place in NECIS.

In the end, it was a strong finish for the Varsity Boys and JV Boys. Hopefully next year, these teams continue to play with the same integrity and intensity.

By Prabhanjan Balakrishnan

Courtesy of PB

More NECIS Basketball Pictures

More Senior Prank Pictures

ISA Middle Schoolers Compete in Switzerland

On April 9, ISA sent two teams of three students into the ISMTF middle school math competition at the lovely ski resort of Wengen, Switzerland. The A-team was comprised of 8th graders Anna Economon, Mamie Wilson and Sylvia Liu and the B-Team 8th graders Pranjal Ray, Vivianne Shi and 6th grader Daniel Duncanson. ISA's A-team finished 4th out of 42 teams. Oslo won and Frankfurt's 2 teams finished 2nd and 3rd. The ISA B-team finished tied for 30th. Congratulations to our mathletes!

By Ari Economon