

Introduction

By Kaitlyn Shen

Welcome back to the Green Growl! For newcomers, the Green Growl is LISG's very own newspaper. Here, we discuss and write about LISG's events, past and upcoming. This year, we have a new team which includes returning members along with new people! Since you are still reading, without further ado, let's get on with the stories! In this edition, we have some of our returning columns, including, Interviews, Puzzles, Fact or Fiction, etc. There are also limited edition articles that we have recently been able to get our hands on such as podcast interviews and the upcoming GALA. On behalf of the whole newspaper team, we hope you enjoy our latest articles and stay tuned!



March Mammal Madness

By Nandika Salhotra

Originated in Dr. Katie Hinde's blog, *Mammals Suck... Milk*, March Mammal Madness is an educational tournament that has become increasingly popular over the past few years. It is educational and

entertaining! But what exactly is March Mammal Madness?

March Mammal Madness, or MMM, is a contest of simulated combat and competition between different animals. Scientific journals and animal studies help to decide the winners of each round, because the animals aren't actually fighting. Attributes taken into account are weight, speed, fight style, motivation and anatomy. Participants in the tournament are given access to the sources from which the animal winners are decided and they have to predict which animal will win in each round.

The first competition takes place in early March. In the first round there are four subcategories; Trickster Taxonomy, Red in Fur, Of Myths and Monsters, and Sea Beasties. In each category, there are combative battles between two animals. When those winners are determined- based on physical advantages or just plain luck- the animals advance to the second round, and so on up through the bracket.

Students research physical advantages and habitats that animals live in to make the most accurate predictions of which animal would win in a battle. Ofcourse, like any good battle there can be upsets. An upset is when the underdog or more unlikely winner somehow beats the

odds and ends up annihilating its opponent. Sometimes it's due to habitat advantage, sometimes physical strengths and sometimes...it's just sheer luck as the stronger opponent forfeits for some reason or another. Animals advance up to through the bracket until there are only two animals left that have to fight to win the ultimate title of CHAMPION.

To recap this year's competition: The animals that competed in the Tricky Taxonomy category included the following: the dugong, the colo colo opossum, the mountain tapir, the common treeshrew, the tarsier, the mara, the red wolf, the giant golden mole, the malagasy striped civet, the solenodon, the jaguarundi, the amami rabbit, the kinda baboon, the egyptian fruit bat, the musk deer, and the aoudad. The battles were: the dugong vs. the colo colo opossum, the mountain tapir vs. the common treeshrew, the tarsier vs. the mara, the red wolf vs. the giant golden mole, the malagasy striped civet vs. the solenodon, the jaguarundi vs. the amami rabbit, the kinda baboon vs. the egyptian fruit bat, and then musk deer vs. the aoudad. The winners that moved on to round two were: the dugong, the mountain tapir, the tarsier, the red wolf, the solenodon, the jaguarundi, the egyptian fruit bat and the musk deer.

The animals from the Red, in Fur category were: the red kangaroo, the southern red backed vole, the red hartebeest, the red squirrel, the maroon langur, the little red flying fox, the red brocket, the siberian weasel, the red fox, the ring-tailed vonsira, the red-crested tree rat, the red and white giant flying squirrel, the red ruffed

lemur, the red necked pademelon, the bay cat, and the red rumped agouti. The battles were: the red kangaroo vs. the southern red-backed vole, the red hartebeest vs. the red squirrel, the maroon langur vs. the little red flying fox, the red brocket vs. the siberian weasel, the red fox vs. the ring tailed vonsira, the red crested-tree rat vs. the red and white giant flying squirrel, the red ruffed lemur vs. the red-necked pademelon, and the bay cat vs. the red-rumped agouti. The winners that progressed to the second round were: the red kangaroo, the red hartebeest, the maroon langur, the red brocket, the red fox, the red-crested tree rat, red ruffed lemur, and the bay cat.

The animals that participated in the Sea Beasties category were: the saber-toothed anchovy, the planktonic copepod, the midgardia seastar, the hydra, the pink vent fish, the lathe acteon, the yeti crab, the aphrodite anthias, the vampire squid, the basket star, the ammonite, the demon eartheater cichlid, the platyzilla, the tube anemone, the black dragonfish, and the blue glaucus. The battles between the animals were as follows: the saber-toothed anchovy vs. the planktonic copepod, the midgardia sea star vs. the hydra. the pink vent fish vs. the lathe acteon, the yeti crab vs. the aphrodite anthias, the vampire squid vs. the basket star, the ammonite vs. the demon eartheater cichlid, the platyzilla vs. the tube anemone, and the black dragonfish vs. the blue glaucus. The winners that advanced to round two were: the saber-toothed anchovy, the midgardia seastar, the pink vent fish, the yeti crab, the

vampire squid, the ammonite, the platyzilla, and the black dragonfish.

More information can be found about the results on the Arizona State University website. Interested in following along? Check out the postings outside of Mrs. Aziz's room in March!

A Toast To The Future

By Mrs. Aziz

The week of May 3rd kicked off an exciting start to LISG's annual fundraising Gala. This year's theme, A Toast to the Future, gives us a chance to reflect on persevering through an unprecedented year and looking ahead to the future. The main hallway is adorned with beautiful artwork from classes led by Mrs. Ambrosio. Be sure to take a peek and extend your encouragement to an artist.

Earlier this week, on Monday night, eighth grader, Jordan Matijak kicked off the week by hosting a meet the author night! Fans were treated to a reading of her book, *The Crazy Adventures of Izzy and Alex* (available on Amazon) and Jordan graciously signed copies for fans on Tuesday.

It was family cooking night on Tuesday with Mrs. Aziz. Homemade pasta with fresh alfredo sauce and scrumptious Tiramisu for dessert was on the menu and on our plates! On Wednesday night, Mrs. Ambrosio hosted a family paint night. Artists used their skills to paint on vases to make unique creations. The excitement continues this Friday! We look forward to seeing you on Friday for

delicious culinary tastings, raffles, auctions, and of course, a toast to the future!

The Podcast You Need To Hear

Right Now

By Nandika Salhotra

I recently had the pleasure of interviewing the creators and hosts of the podcast, *Things Every 13 Year Old Should Know*, Annabel and Wilder. Their podcast is a series of interviews with incredibly interesting and inspirational people, old and young alike, to discuss things that the typical 13 year old would want to know about.

What inspired you to make this podcast?

We wanted to start something, because we had so much free time when school went online. Our Wednesday's were free, and we were dabbling in entrepreneurship in school anyway.

What is the process of making a podcast episode?

We have a list of potential candidates, and once we have chosen a suitable person to interview, we either email them or DM them on Instagram. We started out with people we knew, because we weren't really used to interviewing people yet.

Which podcast episode stands out to you the most?

[Wilder] The interview that stands out the most to me is the interview with Eli, a child entrepreneur. It was nice that we kept the conversation going the entire time. Eli is a good speaker, so the interview flowed very well.

[Annabel] The interview with Connor Paolo stands out the most to me. Wilder knows him through his dad, but he's a pretty famous actor, and the interview was when I learned to control my emotions around famous people.

Which interview did you enjoy the most?

[Wilder] I enjoyed the interview with Michael Solomon, who is a talent manager. We had a big conversation, which I view as a sort of stepping stone.

[Annabel] I enjoyed the interview with Casey, because he's a skateboarder and I love skateboarding.

What is one thing that you have learned from making your podcast during this pandemic?

[Wilder] I learned more about entrepreneurship, marketing, and speaking.

[Annabel] I learned about how to have better conversations. I'm a pretty talkative person in general, and it was nice to get to talk to people that I didn't previously know and learn so much.

What is one piece of advice that you'd give to 13 year olds?

[Wilder] Everyone has their own opinions about you, and it's better to just focus on what you think and want to do instead of trying to change yourself to make other people happy.

[Annabel] Go for whatever you want, because if you don't, you'll regret it later on in life.

The podcast, Things Every 13 Year Old Should Know, is available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and

wherever else one can find podcasts. It is an extremely interesting, inspiring podcast, and is definitely worth a listen!



March Madness

By Jonathan Gold

During March and April there is a basketball tournament called March Madness where many college basketball teams compete to take the March Madness trophy for their school. March madness works in a bracket system where there are 68 colleges across the US competing to win it all. where there are many teams and they compete to get to the Division 1 championship which is a single elimination tournament.

While there are many powerful teams like Gonzaga in Washington and Baylor in Texas, plenty of other teams can take home the championship. There are four main teams for this year that can take the trophy. Those teams are Gonzaga, Baylor, Texas, OSU (Oregon State University), and there is one team that is a big upset in the entire bracket. That team is Loyola Chicago.

They are a big upset team because they are an unexpected team, the underdog, that took down the two top teams. The founder for Loyola Chicago is 102 years old! Her name is Sister Jean and due to covid she almost couldn't come to the tournament but finally made it due to her getting the second dose of her vaccine back when the

tournament started. Due to that Loyola made sure to bring their A game to take the trophy.

The other three teams favored to win are the three best in the nation at this moment and are the most likely to win the championship. Gonzaga is my favorite one. The Gonzaga team has many talented players that could make it to the NBA just like many other players in the tournament. Their best players include Jalen Suggs, who is one of the best players in high school in the entire nation. Others are Drew Timme and Andrew Nembhard. But other teams, like Baylor, also have talented players like Davion Mitchell, Jonathan Tchamwa Tchatchoua -a talented player who is playing well in the tournament. Other top teams are OSU and Loyola Chicago. OSU has players like EJ Lidell and Kyle Young who are two of the best players who play perfectly together. Loyola Chicago is the underdog favorite where their two best players are Cameron Krutwig and Aher Uguak who played amazing this tournament and will potentially win it for their school and come down as champions.

very low in the rankings to be some of the highest in the school.

Puzzles

By Alvin Deng

Shikaku

Shikaku is a puzzle where you have to create rectangles (or squares) that contain one of the numbered tiles that has the area (in terms of tiles) of that number. (Table is gray so that you can write over it)

7	8		1			2	2	
				5				
			3			15		
					4			
	9							
				4				
						5		
12								6
		1			3		2	
4				4				2

Sudoku

I hope y'all know how Sudoku works, if you don't know how it works then search it up.

	9	8		7		4		6	3	
6		5		1		3		8		4
4	7			6		8			9	2
2	3	6			7			4	8	9
				2		6				
5	4	7			3			2	6	1
7	5			9		2			4	8
3		2		4		5		9		7
	8	4		3		7		5	2	

A-less Word Search

This wordsearch has a twist (ooh), it is a wordsearch composed of only words starting with A, but the A's are not there, A's in the middle of words will be replaced by random letters. There is a word bank, but I challenge you to do it without the word bank. There are 12 words. Each word has at least 4 letters.

Y	C	C	U	M	U	L	D	T	E
X	T	E	B	Q	H	P	L	D	F
I	G	J	O	R	Q	S	I	F	S
S	T	E	R	I	S	K	G	D	F
K	H	L	E	U	N	N	L	E	Z
L	Z	P	I	L	G	U	T	C	C
F	R	I	K	B	U	M	O	V	Y
R	R	O	W	R	M	W	R	X	Z
R	T	O	R	I	S	S	T	Z	Y
U	S	R	N	R	R	R	R	X	B

Accumulate	Axis	Alphabet
Alligator	Annual	Annual
Actual	Afrika	Afro
Animate	Asterisk	Arrow

Interviews - Online Learning

By Kaitlyn Shen

Dana Wang

How has corona affected your learning?

I have become fully online since the start of the new school year. I feel as though there is not as much interaction as well as distractions, especially in the household. It is harder for me to keep up in class and the participation in class has decreased but it is completely understandable regarding the current circumstances.

What is something you would change or hope about online classes?

I hope that teachers are more inclusive and the assignments are more interactive with not only the in school kids but the online ones as well. For example, assigning more accessible projects instead of just textbooks work.

What do you miss the most about being in school?

I really miss the social interaction between my teachers, friends, and fellow classmates as well as being involved in the extracurricular activities and participating in events like the book fair and the sockarama. Asking questions and participating in class,

talking to friends and seeing them in person rather than through the screen are also a few other things I would like to be able to do again.

What class became more challenging during online learning?

I would definitely say chemistry, math, and Spanish. For chemistry and math, it is more interactive with the labs and just answering questions and doing worksheets. Spanish requires more communication and participation which is difficult because of the wifi connection issues as well as the separation between online students and in school people.

What is a benefit of online learning?

I definitely have more time for things which have improved my time management skills and my independence. I have also learned to put my own responsibilities above other things like distractions. My sleep schedule has also improved a lot and I wake up well rested due to the lack of transportation from being online. Being online has also made me spend more time with friends and family which taught me the importance of them.

Interviews - Coronavirus

Vaccinations

By Kaitlyn Shen

Mrs. Furnell/Ms. Meola

How were you feeling before the vaccination? Nervous, scared, excited, etc?

I was feeling a little anxious due to having a compromised immune system, but was also

relieved to be able to get it. I was relieved because I do not want to be the reason someone else gets sick.

How are you feeling now that you have received the vaccination? Safer, more confident, completely normal, etc?

I feel the same as before (and still will when I get the second dose). I know that it is not a miracle vaccination and I still want to make sure I keep people safe.

Have there been any minor or major changes in your everyday life since the vaccination?

There have been no changes. Still use tons of hand sanitizer, wash my hands frequently and always wear my face covering around others.

For the people who have not gotten the vaccination yet, what would your advice be?

My advice would be that if your doctor is on board with you getting the vaccine and you also feel comfortable getting it, then you should absolutely get it. We are trying for herd immunity, which will only happen if most of the population has the vaccine.

Do you think it is important for people to get vaccinated?

I do think getting vaccinated is important, especially if I can save someone's life. I would like to get back to "normal" someday and I know a herd immunity will definitely help speed up the process.

Ms. Spaulding

How were you feeling before the vaccination? Nervous, scared, excited, etc?

Before the vaccination I was very nervous about being in contact with anyone not in my immediate household. I kept away from any situation that put me in danger of getting sick. I was very cautious about all my decisions.

How are you feeling now that you have received the vaccination? Safer, more confident, completely normal, etc?

I definitely felt relieved when I had gotten the full two doses of the vaccine. I felt that I finally had more protection.

Have there been any minor or major changes in your everyday life since the vaccination?

No changes at all. I still practice the same caution as I did before the vaccine. I just feel more protected than before.

For the people who have not gotten the vaccination yet, what would your advice be?

I would recommend thinking about getting it. For me it was about feeling protected and if there is something I can do to keep myself healthy and keep my family safe I was going to do it.

Do you think it is important for people to get vaccinated?

I think it is important to consider getting vaccinated. There are so many factors to the choice of getting the vaccine, but for me the

most important piece and the deciding factor was keeping everyone around me and my family healthy and safe.

Mrs. Singh

How were you feeling before the vaccination? Nervous, scared, excited, etc?

I was very excited to get the vaccine and felt a little nervous too about the side effects.

How are you feeling now that you have received the vaccination? Safer, more confident, completely normal, etc?

I do feel more safe after the vaccine, but still wearing a mask everywhere I go.

Have there been any minor or major changes in your everyday life since the vaccination?

No changes, still being very careful.

For the people who have not gotten the vaccination yet, what would your advice be?

Keep your distance, wear a mask, and wash your hands frequently.

Do you think it is important for people to get vaccinated?

Everyone should get a vaccine.

Mrs. Garay

How were you feeling before the vaccination? Nervous, scared, excited, etc?

I waited a month and a half to get my first shot! I was both nervous and excited when the day came. It was like Christmas! I was

just hoping I didn't have a reaction to it, which luckily, I didn't.

How are you feeling now that you have received the vaccination? Safer, more confident, completely normal, etc?

My second shot is next week so I'm not fully vaccinated yet. However, I do feel a little safer, not only that I'll be vaccinated but that others continue to be as well. I will continue to wear my mask and be vigilant about being careful. In my opinion, there are still many things that we do not know about the virus and the vaccines. How will the vaccine hold up to the variants? How long will the vaccine last?

Have there been any minor or major changes in your everyday life since the vaccination?

Not really. I only go out to a limited number of stores. I still have not eaten in a restaurant since the beginning of the shutdown. But I am looking forward to the warmer weather when we can see my grandbabies outdoors.

For the people who have not gotten the vaccination yet, what would your advice be?

It's been very frustrating trying to get an appointment for the vaccination for myself and then for my husband. We actually had to drive into the city for my husband's shot but we were happy to do it. If getting an appointment is standing in their way, I say keep trying!! My appointment was at Jones Beach. They were very organized and very nice! I didn't have to even get out of my car. Also, they made me sit in my car for 15

minutes to check on me to make sure I didn't have a reaction.

Do you think it is important for people to get vaccinated?

I think it's very important. The faster people get vaccinated, the faster we can resume activities closer to those of our pre-pandemic life.

The Stock Market Game

By Adrien Dai

The stock market game is a national competition that provides students with the opportunity to trade and manage a virtual financial portfolio. At LISG, it is hosted by Mr. Novick. Students are split into groups of four and create a virtual \$100,000 portfolio. They are tasked with the objective to gain the most money in a short period of time by trading and managing their financial portfolio.

Students learn about buying stocks by investing in a company and selling stocks, which involves selling shares of a company they have invested in. Another interesting aspect of the game is diversification, which means you can mix different investments within a single portfolio to reduce the risk of owning any one stock.

The stock market game lasts three months. Students have to be diligent about checking their stocks and adjusting their portfolio. Managing a portfolio could involve selling a poorly performing stock or buying a stock that has the potential to increase in value.

The stock market game is a valuable tool for students to become financially literate and gain an appreciation for how to make sound investment decisions.

The Green Growl Fact or Fiction

By Everyone

1. **Fact or Fiction?** Alvin E Deng can solve the Rubik's Cube in under 15 seconds.
2. **Fact or Fiction?** Mrs. Aziz has a hidden stash of candy in her room.
3. **Fact or Fiction?** LISG was once a high school.
4. **Fact or Fiction?** Mr. Novick hides snacks in his beard.
5. **Fact or Fiction?** There used to be a swimming pool in the basement of the school prior to 1990.
6. **Fact or Fiction?** Nandika Salhotra's hair is longer than two feet.
7. **Fact or Fiction?** The coordinates of the school are 40° 49' 17.21" N, 73° 23' 25.77" W
8. **Fact or Fiction?** Alvin E Deng once ate a crayon.
9. **Fact or Fiction?** There is an elevator in the teacher's lounge.
10. **Fact or Fiction?** Dr. Geyer has a pet dog named Albus Dumbledore.
11. **Fact or Fiction?** Brandon Allen once ate 18 chicken nuggets during lunch.
12. **Fact or Fiction?** The school is actually a social experiment.
13. **Fact or Fiction?** Dr. Geyer is a professional Amongus player who

goes by the screen name NinjaHypeBeast2.

14. **Fact or Fiction?** The entire faculty, staff, and students all dressed up as Minions for the Halloween parade in 1989.
15. **Fact or Fiction?** The first play that was ever held at LISG was West Side Story and starred Miss Spaulding.
16. **Fact or Fiction?** 1996 was the only year that had no ninth graders at LISG.
17. **Fact or Fiction?** The school wifi is actually very fast. It's just always being used by Adrien Dai and Albert Wu for video games which is why the rest of the school doesn't get any.
18. **Fact or Fiction?** Mr. Novick attended middle school in this building.
19. **Fact or Fiction?** There are 13 Facts in this list.
20. **Fact or Fiction?** Alvin E Deng is a pro guitar player.
21. **Fact or Fiction?** Alvin E Deng is a pro singer.

The Final Word

Kaitlyn Shen

On the chance that you are still here, thanks for reading the Fifth edition of the Green Growl! Feel free to give us some feedback and let us know what you think of our digital print. We thank you for taking the time to read this, as we put in a lot of effort into the creation of the one, the only, the fabulous Green Growl newspaper of LISG. A big thanks to the team itself as well for

making the whole newspaper exist. If you are interested, then it's good news that there will be more editions sometime next year! For those interested in joining the newspaper team and writing some of these articles yourself, you can contact Mrs. Aziz at saziz@lisg.org.