

# **Titan Tribune Issue 2**

*January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

## **Editor's note**

Welcome to the second issue of the Templeton newspaper! This issue features current events opinion pieces and school events/clubs reporting. I would like to thank our producer, Ms. Vadacchino, and all our great writers. We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested in joining, please reach out! If you would like to submit an article, poem, drawing, or other creative project to the newspaper, please email it to [temptribunenewspaper@gmail.com](mailto:temptribunenewspaper@gmail.com). Also, check out our Instagram account @templeton\_newspaper. Fill out our [short form](#). Results will be in our next issue.

Happy reading!

Anna Segelken

Chief Editor

# Current Events/Opinion

## The Dark Side of FIFA

By Kian Khadempour



The logo for the 2022 Qatar World Cup

With the recent conclusion to the World Cup, I think that it is important to shine a light on the things that were instrumental in making it possible. La'eeb, the cup's [official mascot](#), may look like a cute keffiyeh, but in reality hides a dark secret full of bribes, human rights abuses, and modern-day slavery.

### FIFA and bribery:

FIFA, French acronym for “International Association Football Federation”, was founded in 1904 to oversee the rules of football, also known as soccer in some countries, with the first World Cup being held in 1930. [Ever since 2006](#) though, FIFA has also been known for [corruption and bribery](#). This World Cup has been no exception. [More than half](#) of the people involved in the votes to select the host countries for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups have been accused of wrongdoing. It was revealed that Qatar had paid voters to vote for their bid to be the host country of the World Cup. This wasn't surprising, however, as the previous World Cup in

Russia had also been the result of bribery. FIFA officials also accepted bribes during these two events by Fox Corporation, which got exclusive broadcast rights to the games in the U.S.

Qatar's lack of human rights:

[Qatar ranks 128<sup>th</sup>](#) on the Human Freedom Index, below even Russia. This is widespread knowledge now, but even in 2010, when they were announced as the host of the World Cup, people knew about their [lack of freedom](#). Women in Qatar are [tied to a male](#), usually their husband or father, and are practically controlled by them. The laws in Qatar also make it extremely hard for women to get divorces, which further binds them to their husbands. The government has said that they have changed their policies, but this isn't well demonstrated in cases like that of [Noof al-Maadeed](#), who disappeared for months after returning to Qatar from the UK, where she went to escape from her abusive family. Noof later posted a video of herself saying that she is fine and alive, but she may have been forced by the government to do so, as she gave them praise in the video. Qatar is also known for its history of anti-LGBTQ policies, such as the [law that punishes gay sex](#) with up to seven years in prison. The third example of human rights abuses is the kafala system.

The Kafala System:

The [kafala system](#), meaning “sponsorship system”, is a set of laws that are common across many Middle Eastern countries that allows almost total control over migrant workers. This started as a way to get cheap labor, but has been devastating for the people who get trapped in it, and has been called modern slavery by experts and critics. This is the way all of Qatar's [seven new stadiums](#) got built. The workers, mainly from South Asian countries like India and Indonesia, are often required to pay their employers before they even start working, which traps them with that employer because they need to pay off the debt. After signing the predatory contracts, sometimes in languages they don't even know, their passports, visas, and phones are taken away, another way of trapping them. The wages they earn, which are already borderline unlivable, can be reduced as punishment, while their living conditions are unsanitary, cramped, and unsafe. If they don't like something and want to apply for a different job, their employer can

at any time invalidate their sponsorship and send them back to their home countries. Vox's [video](#) covers what these workers had to go through while building the stadiums for the 2022 World Cup.

With all these strikes against them, was Qatar the best place to host the World Cup? FIFA officials would say yes, but I would disagree. I think that the last two World Cups have not gone to the right countries, and that respect for human rights should be a precondition for any country to host the World Cup. In addition to that, FIFA's voting system obviously needs an overhaul to prevent bribery and other wrongdoings. If this happens again, maybe a boycotting of the World Cup is necessary for FIFA to realize that people care.

## **What the World Cup Win Means for Argentina and Messi**

By Anna Segelken



Argentina celebrates their World Cup success (Dale MacMilan/Soccrates/Getty Images).

It's 1986, and Argentina has just won their second world cup, with Diego Maradona as captain. [He is regarded as one of the best players in the world, and is nicknamed "the golden boy"](#). Now, Argentinians want another World Cup trophy. Football is very important to them, [with 90% of people declaring allegiance to an Argentinian football club](#). Who will win Argentina another trophy, and be the "New Maradona"?

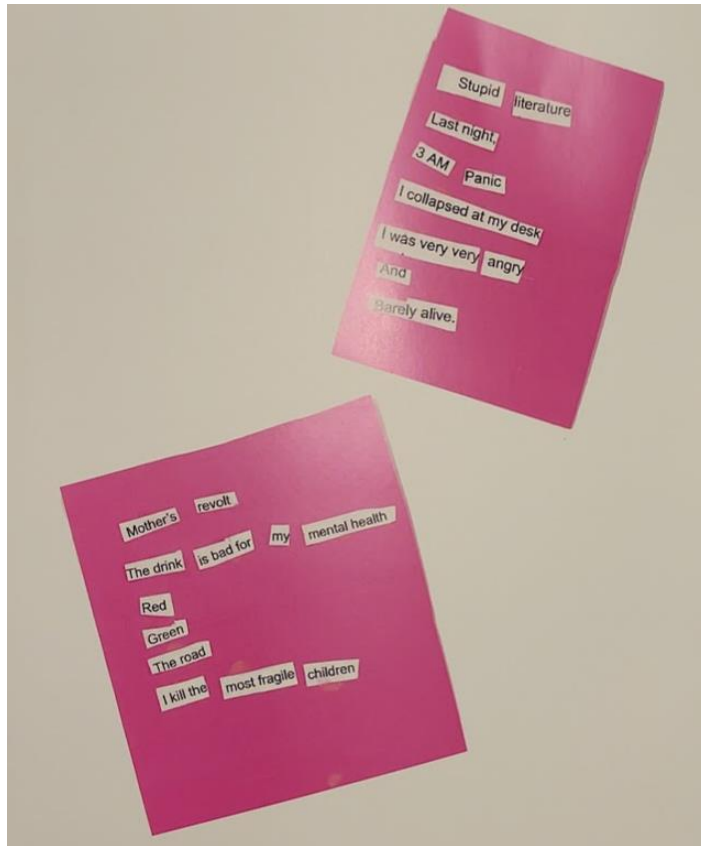
Messi, now a famous Argentinian soccer player, was also a superstar child, who moved overseas to train at the young age of thirteen. At the age of ten, he was diagnosed with growth hormone deficiency, but his parents did not have enough money to cover the cost of the necessary treatment. Messi's local club, River Plate, showed interest in Messi's progress, but was not willing to cover the cost either. [Fortunately, Barcelona showed interest in Messi and invited him to join the club's academy, so he was able to afford the treatment he required](#). He played on Barcelona's club team until 2021, when he transferred to Paris Saint-Germain. Soccer players play on club teams for most of the season, and then return and play for their national teams (in Messi's case, Argentina) during international competitions, such as the FIFA World Cup.

Because Messi spent most of his life overseas, the Argentinian people had a hard time connecting with him, and he didn't have much support back home. One of the major reasons fans didn't like him was his inability to win a World Cup. [Many Argentinians were disappointed in him, and blamed him for the lack of trophies won by Argentina at international level](#).

Now, with Argentina's 2022 FIFA World Cup victory, Messi has finally won the support and admiration of his home country. [Lionel Messi has been named the "New Maradona" by Maradona himself](#).

## Ink, TAG, and VPL

By Lia Low and Hiona Oyama



Inside cover art: Found Poetry by Megan Wong in *ink* Volume 05.

Last month, the Vancouver Public Library (VPL) published the fifth edition of their teen *ink* journal. Each year, Secondary School students submit their creative works for a chance to be featured in this publication, uniquely made by and for local teens. In this edition of *ink*, there are at least four young, talented writers and artists from Templeton who had one or more of their works featured. In total, there were sixty-three teenagers from the Metro Vancouver area whose works were included in *ink* Volume 05.

This year, the submissions for *ink* Volume 06 will close on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The *ink* Teen Advisory Group (*ink* TAG) at VPL design and assemble the magazine with guidance from

adults, including guest speakers. Some of the more common types of work included are poems, short stories, and digital and traditional art. The TAG is a little different than the *ink* TAG. The *ink* TAG members participate in different workshops with other writers and artists and are involved in every step of *ink*'s publication. This year, they'll be meeting in February and March.

The TAG, on its own, is centered around the Vancouver libraries. They often contribute their own ideas to library services, along with developing and leading some of their programs. Youth across Vancouver can connect either online through Zoom, or in person at the Renfrew Branch.

The two of us, having previously submitted to *ink*, had a great overall experience. We were given the opportunity to present our work, talk about our own opinion, and explain the creative process. Hearing others showcase their work at the launch party was insightful as well as inspiring. This magazine is an engaging opportunity for teens to extend their creative skills and to experience what it is like to have published work.

If you are thinking of submitting your own work to *ink* Volume 06, check out [www.vpl.ca/ink](http://www.vpl.ca/ink) for more information and to access the submission form.

## **School Events/Clubs**

### **An Afternoon With Casey**

By Uy Pham

The houselights went dark. The chattering died down as my friends and I stared at the black stage, not quite sure what to expect. We, along with most of Theatre Temp, had come down to see this matinee performance of "Casey and the Octopus." We had been told that the actor, Casey Wright, would share his life story with us, and that it was going to be the most heartwarming presentation we had seen in a long time. As it turned out, the show was exactly that, and much more.

Then the stage turned bright again, and there Casey was. He was small, smaller than we could have imagined, and yet his presence seemed to fill the entire studio. Even with everything we'd heard about him, meeting Casey in person still hit us in a way we never could have prepared for. To be honest, I felt a little uneasy. It was strange seeing someone so different from us.

However, it did not take long for that feeling to dissipate. Over the next hour, we followed Casey as he led us through his incredible journey, accompanied by images shown onstage by a projector. We saw him as a baby, back when things were still "normal." We listened as Casey retold the moment doctors discovered what he called "the Octopus," a malignant tumour in his brain. We followed him through everything that came after: the surgeries, the long months in the hospital, all the things he did not get to do as a young boy.

But it wasn't just the things that he didn't get to do. Casey also talked about the things he did: fundraising, living on a ranch, acting in a TV show, etc. When he showed us a video message sent to him by Jason Momoa, we could barely believe our eyes. Casey, despite his challenges, has lived and is living a much more meaningful life than many of us. I suppose he put it better than anyone else. "I'm the luckiest guy alive!" he said at the end of the show.

When the lights went out at the end of the performance, it took me some time to process what I'd just seen, so much so that I almost forgot to join the applause erupting in the studio. Casey stayed on stage for a while to answer questions from the audience. I wanted to thank him for what he did and is continuing to do, but I wasn't able to. Well, I guess I finally have the chance to do it here. Thank you, Casey, for making my day better with your inspiration.



## 2022 Winter Band Concert

By Amelia Kondor and Anna Segelken



Concert band (Ms. Yau).

Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> were the days of the 2022 winter band concert. There were performances from the concert band, made up of students with at least one year of experience on their instruments, and performances from the beginner band, made up of students who are new to their instruments. There was also a personal project performance- a piano/flute duet performed by Megan Cheng and Tiffany Vo. One of the pieces, Waters of Wisdom, was composed by a member of the concert band, Francis Reyes. The concert had several exciting segments, including a section where the audience had to guess what song was being played, performed as a solo or within another song. The mix of audience participation, well-rehearsed ensemble pieces, and solos made for a fantastic concert! For more information, check out <https://www.templetonmusicprogram.com/>.

## Student Book Club

By Lia Low, Amelia Kondor, and Hiona Oyama



Book club members in their weekly meeting (Lia Low).

As we, members of Templeton's student book club, finish reading our first book of the year, we would like to write some reviews and recommendations for similar books. The Templeton Book Club is a club that was officially founded earlier this school year. Our staff sponsor is Ms. Nanda, our school's librarian.

Last year, a small group of grade nine students wanted to join a book club part way through the school year, but Templeton did not yet have its own book club, which is why we created one this year. From December of 2021 to June of 2022, we read a total of five books. We explored quite a few different genres, including YA romance, mystery, fantasy, and dystopian literacy. As a group, we all decide on a manageable section to read over each week, so even some of our slower readers can participate. A couple of our favourites since first starting out have been *Ace of Spades* by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé, *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V. E. Schwab, and our most recent book, *If We Were Villains* by M. L. Rio.

*If We Were Villains* is about a group of seven fourth-year students studying Shakespeare in the fictional Dellecher Classical Conservatory. When one of these students dies mysteriously, the protagonist, Oliver Marks, wishes to return to his life from before the incident. However, as time passes, he slowly discovers secrets that his inner circle of friends have been keeping from

him, and the truth about their friend's death comes to light. This book was well received by the book club; most of our members were intrigued by the mysterious plot, and adored the characters. The book was written in the style of a Shakespeare play, with acts and scenes instead of parts and chapters. The author skillfully incorporated a lot of Shakespearean language and quotations, with characters using the Bard's words in place of their own.

We would recommend this novel to anyone who enjoys Shakespeare or mysteries. If you enjoy slow-paced books, this could be the book for you, as the first two acts are dedicated more towards character development. This story focuses as much on relatable and flawed characters as it does on the dark and twisting plot.

## **Everything You Should Know About the Environment Club**

By Luca Crema Black



[This image portrays a rather large clothing swap.](#)

What is the Environment Club?

The Environment Club is a space that gives people who join the opportunity to help the environment. Together, they look at serious issues that are solvable with the funds and materials the club can access. It is not run by individuals but rather the club as a whole- this offers the chance to express your opinions and ideas with the freedom to use them. The members are composed of students of all ages, giving you the opportunity to work with your classmates and friends as soon as you join. As someone who is a part of this club, I can tell you that the people in it are welcoming and supportive. By joining the Environment Club, I can guarantee that you will also be joining a community.

What will you be doing in the Environment Club?

The Environment Club is a casual club that will approach any goal that they have the funds to achieve. They might not be able to make electric cars or solar panels, because they won't have the money to make those things, but they can still recycle or pick up litter. In the future, the Environment Club would like to be able to pursue larger projects, which they are working up to now.

What has the Environment Club done?

The Environment Club's most recent project was a clothing swap where forgotten clothes were exchanged between students; this saved money and the environment by preventing fast-fashion. Fast-fashion is one of the largest threats to the environment, as it takes up around 18% of clothing sold and can cause serious damage to the environment when making it. Handmade clothing does not usually affect the environment, but mass produced fast-fashion clothing does. Machines are required to manufacture lots of clothing quickly, and most machines that manufacture fast-fashion clothing require crude oil and release acid gases. This affects the environment in two ways: the crude oil contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, and the acid gases can cause respiratory diseases. Just by hosting a clothing swap, the Environment Club gave students an eco-friendly fast-fashion alternative by swapping clothes. This is a great solution to a terrible problem.



What should you know when joining the Environment club?

If you want to join the Environment club, come to Ms. Soderlund's room, Room 209, at lunch on Wednesdays. The Environment club takes place each week during lunch on Wednesday. Hopefully I'll see you there!

## Everything you Should Know About the Strength and Conditioning Club

By Luca Crema Black



[The leftmost image portrays a group of people doing cardio](#) and [the rightmost image shows a group weightlifting.](#)

What is the Strength and Conditioning Club?

The Strength and Conditioning Club is a club that allows access to an area in the school that is reserved for weightlifting and cardio, hence the name. It is not run by a student body but rather an experienced trainer and athlete. The club has a wide range of members; some students are experienced and have been working out for a while and some are new to weightlifting and cardio. Nevertheless, all levels of experience and athleticism are encouraged to join the club. As

someone who goes to this club, I can tell you that the people who are in this club are welcoming and supportive. By joining, I can guarantee that you will also be joining a community.

What are the effects of training a couple times a week?

Different ways of working out have contrasting effects on your body. What's fantastic about the Strength and Conditioning club is that it offers a variety of ways you can work out. When doing cardio activity you can burn fat, improve your mood, reduce inflammation, and create lower blood sugar levels in your body. When weightlifting you can build muscle mass and strength, prevent falls, keep bones strong, create lower blood sugar levels, and improve balance. Unfortunately, many people don't exercise, and are depressed and have low levels of dopamine and serotonin. Low levels of dopamine and serotonin cause depression, depression discourages you from working out, and not working out can form low levels of dopamine and serotonin. If you're in this scenario or depressed and not working out, joining the Strength and Conditioning Club is a great way to get out of this system or never fall into it.

Why should you join the Strength and Conditioning club?

Maybe I've convinced some of you to work out, but I might not have convinced you to join the Strength and Conditioning Club. The Strength and Conditioning Club is cost effective, time effective, and a nicer place to work out. If you've ever tried to join a gym, you'll realize quickly that you will need a gym membership that usually costs you monthly, but the Strength and Conditioning Club offers you access to a free gym. One of the best parts about this is that you won't need to buy any equipment whatsoever. When devoting yourself to lifting weights you will notice that you need to spend time getting to those weights, and as the days add up, the time does too.

A great aspect of the Strength and Conditioning Club is that it's located inside our school, so the most amount of time spent getting to your equipment will be walking to the weight room. Cardio is great for a lot of reasons, but because cardio activities often take place outside, and as we live in a rainforest, it can be unbearable at times. The Strength and Conditioning Club has

many cardio machines that you can use indoors, making for an easier and more enjoyable workout.

The members of the Strength and Conditioning club would be grateful to have you as a member, and by joining the club, you will add to its community. The club will also get more funds from the school to buy more equipment. When you join the Strength and Conditioning Club you aren't just helping yourself, you're helping others as well. By making new friends, using different machines that you may not have had the chance to use, and creating the opportunity for new machines, you'll be helping the whole club. Don't let this opportunity fly by. Instead, think of all the fun times you'll have if you're part of this club.

What should you know when joining the Strength and Conditioning club?

If you're thinking of joining the Strength and Conditioning club, you can arrive at the weight room from 3:15pm-4:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There will be a lot of people there and you can ask one of them for Dan. Once you meet Dan, ask him if you can join the club and he will likely say yes. If you are very disruptive in the weight room, you could be kicked out of the club, but I don't know anyone who has ever been kicked out. I hope to see you soon in the weight room!