

**ISSUE #2**  
**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER**

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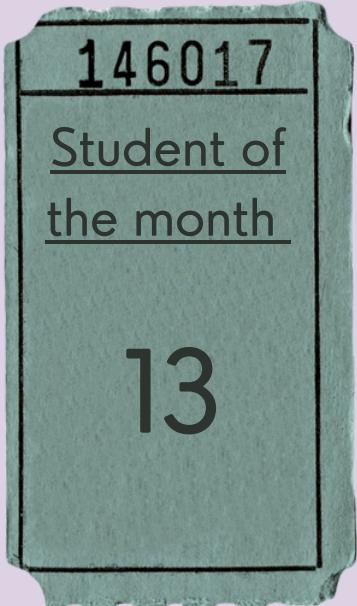
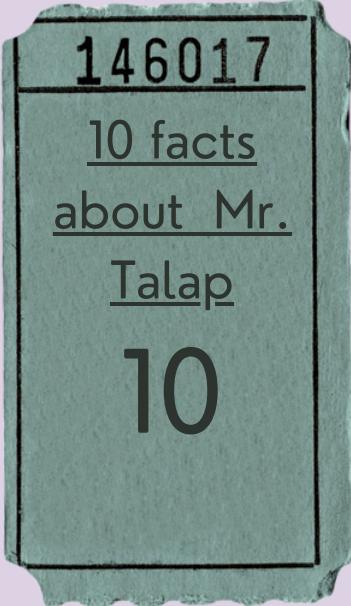
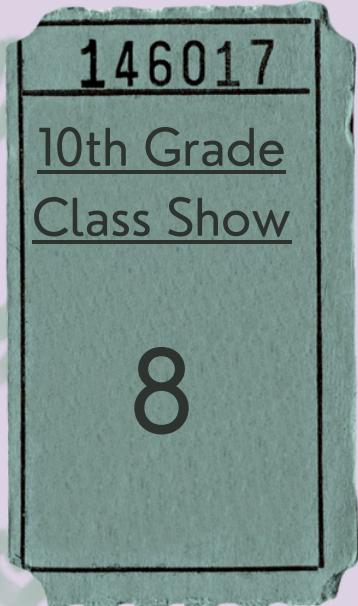
**LIFE**

**L A**

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# Contents



## ***Dear Galaxy International School Community,***

Welcome back to a new academic year at Galaxy Life! I'm thrilled to connect with our readers – students, parents, teachers, and staff.

Last year, 'Galaxy Life' was a vibrant record of our school's journey, showcasing the diverse activities that shaped our community. As we start anew, let's continue fostering a culture of learning, sharing, and synergy.

Success is a team effort, and our collective contributions shape the school's success. Let's approach this year with teamwork and perseverance, embracing challenges and striving for excellence together.

May this year be filled with enriching experiences and achievements. Thank you for your dedication to Galaxy International School's success.

Wishing you a fantastic academic year!

# SCIENCE WEEK

By Sahlee Magaling

In a vibrant celebration of knowledge and curiosity, **Primary Science Week** was held at our school from October 30 to November 3, 2023, captivating audiences with a whirlwind of experiments and different competitions. This year's theme was "Connections", as everything in this world is connected, and most innovations in Science and Technology are built on connections between people, scientists, research groups, and institutions.

The week-long extravaganza kicked off with an opening program spearheaded by the Science Department Head and an amazing **experiment exhibition** by guests. The students immersed themselves in a diverse array of activities aimed at fostering curiosity and advancing scientific understanding.

One of the highlights of Science Week was Experiment Day, where students showcased their ingenuity and curiosity through captivating experiments and demonstrations. In addition to the hands-on activities, students also participated in a series of captivating activities like Science Trivia, Science Quiz Bee, Poster-making, and Projects from Recyclable Materials.

As the curtains closed on this year's celebration, a closing program was held and students who won were awarded **certificates, medals, and small tokens** from the school.

In the aftermath of Science Week, the hope that the ignited spark of curiosity, inquiry, and discovery continues to burn brightly, illuminating a path towards a brighter, more informed future and inspiring our future scientists, engineers, and innovators.



# Kazakh

## Week



Our school annually organizes a **Kazakh week**, during which we learn, discuss, and celebrate the Kazakh culture and language. This year, it lasted five days, beginning on the 4th of December and closing on the 8th. A variety of activities, prizes, and a great atmosphere were a part of the week. Our amazing Kazakh language teachers planned and organized all the events and made them engaging for the students.

The week was opened with a Kazakh tradition known as "**Shashu**", which is a custom that includes showering your guests with candies. It's believed that the sweets gathered during "Shashu" will bring luck and prosperity to one's family. On the same day, in the canteen, students stood in line excitedly awaiting their turn to answer different questions and get fruits and sweets. Both upper and lower secondary seemed thrilled to test their knowledge and receive prizes.

On Tuesday, a gallery was hosted, featuring creatively drawn **paintings by two students** from each grade, showcasing their artistic talents. This event not only highlighted the students' creativity but also fostered a sense of belonging within our school.

The last days of the Kazakh week were just as exciting. On Thursday, a flash mob was organized during lunchtime, where both the students and teachers gathered in the canteen to dance to Kazakh songs and enjoy their time. On Friday, the upper-class students finished the week by presenting their **cartoons dubbed in Kazakh**, adding a delightful conclusion to the event. The students' hard work and effort were evident in the quality and the loud encouragement from the audience.

Overall, during the Kazakh week, students and teachers got to learn something more about the Kazakh culture, actively engage in activities, and connect with their peers. We are looking forward to seeing what will be prepared for next year!

Jamilya Kilambayeva, 12



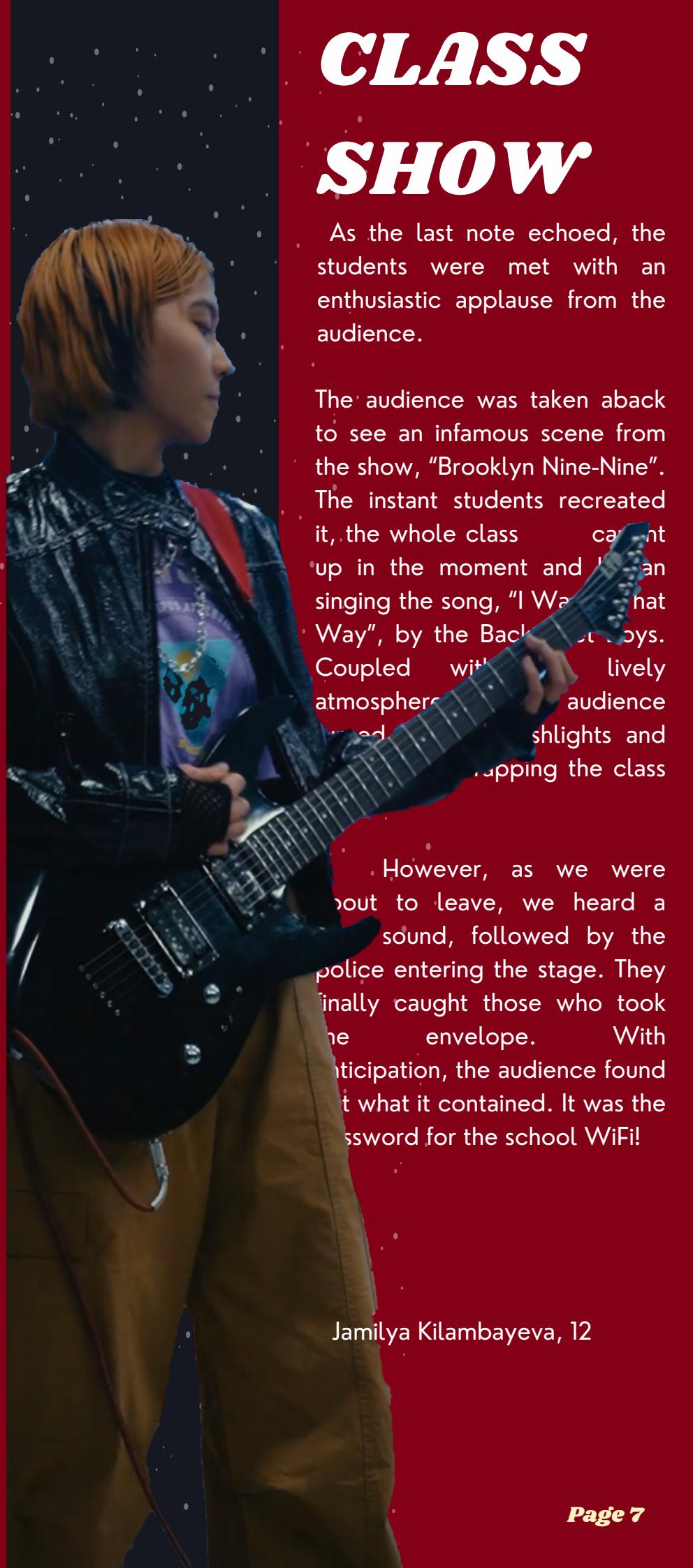
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# **10TH GRADE**

Just as we all sat down for the highly anticipated show, a video played of three students running with an envelope taken from Mr. Bekzat's classroom. We were caught off guard as others were chasing after them.

When the lights turned on, the girls stole the spotlight as they took to the stage with their enthusiastic dance. Their synchronized movements charmed the audience, setting the mood for the whole afternoon, while their costumes and masks added to the excitement in the hall. It was evident that the girls spent an immense amount of time in rehearsals to perfect their performance.

After that, our talented students started performing a well-known song, "Bring Me to Life". As the first melody played, we all got excited and were surprised to see one of the tutors on the stage and singing along. In the back, two students were playing electric guitars, creating a concert-like atmosphere, with the audience tapping their feet to the beat. It was a moment that showcased the diverse interests and talents of the 10th grade.



# **CLASS SHOW**

As the last note echoed, the students were met with an enthusiastic applause from the audience.

The audience was taken aback to see an infamous scene from the show, "Brooklyn Nine-Nine". The instant students recreated it, the whole class caught up in the moment and began singing the song, "I Want That Way", by the Backstreet Boys. Coupled with the lively atmosphere, the audience joined in, clapping and tapping the class

However, as we were about to leave, we heard a sound, followed by the police entering the stage. They finally caught those who took the envelope. With anticipation, the audience found out what it contained. It was the password for the school WiFi!

Jamilya Kilambayeva, 12

# WORLD'S SCHOLAR

## CUP

By Sajora Shotpakova, 12



The World Scholar's Cup is an annual international tournament that consists of several challenges related to public speaking, debate, and writing. The challenges are also disciplined in different subjects, including Art & Music, Social Studies, History, Literature & Media, and Science & Technology. This year's Almaty round was held on the 18-19th of November at Galaxy International School. From the school, many secondary students competed in both the Junior and Senior divisions, and have received numerous awards for their distinction and excellence.

The categories of each award includes the Team Challenge, Debate Champions, Writing Champions, Team Bowl, and the individual subjects.

We are proud to report that four teams have qualified for the global round of the World Scholar's Cup, and we hope to see similar achievements from our students in the near future.

Congratulations!

# 11th grade class show



On **November 29th**, the Grade 11 class show was held, featuring a display of a variety of talents, entertaining activities, and performances. Both students and teachers in attendance praised the much anticipated class show.

Among the many performances were vocals of "**Dani California**" and "**Johnny B. Good**," which were given by extremely talented students of grade 11. The performance captivated the audience, setting the tone for an incredible show. A flash mob dance performance engaged the entire audience. Additionally, the audience's hidden artistic abilities were revealed via an art competition, where a group of randomly selected students were asked to create spontaneous artwork, exhibiting their creative abilities in real time.



To add an element of excitement, a **lottery** was held, creating an atmosphere of anticipation. The lucky winners walked away with several exciting prizes!

The Grade 11 show was an overall **success**, and was a wonderful experience owing to the talents displayed and the hard work put in. We look forward to more such events in the near future.

**Fihaal Gowhar Mir, 12**



# 10 FACTS ABOUT MS SAADIA

Ms Saadia loves reading books and researching new discoveries of science.

-----  
Her hometown is Karachi, Pakistan.

She loves suspense and thriller novels.

-----  
If she could have a super power, it would be telepathy.

She has completed her Bachelors (BS) in Psychological counselling and leadership in Turkey.

-----  
If she weren't a teacher, she would have pursued a career in medicine.

She would describe herself as empathetic, friendly, and helpful.

-----  
If she could only eat one food for the rest of her life, it would be macaroni.

-----  
She can speak 4 languages, including Urdu, English, Turkish, and Hindi.

The first things she notices about a person is their warmth, body language, and gestures.



Playlists

By you

↓↑ Recents

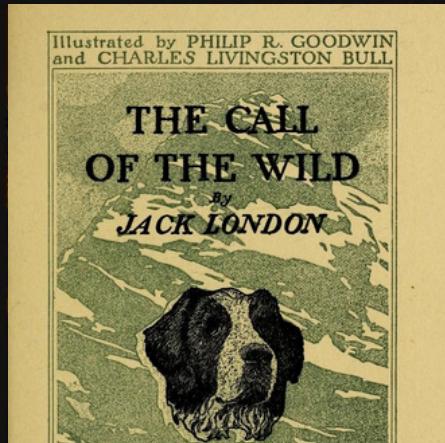
**10 facts about Mr Talap**

F1...sha

His hobbies are reading and jogging.

**H0bb1es.**

F1...sha

**His favourite author is Jack London**

F1...sha

Back in high school, he was known for being the best in biology and writing essays in Kazakh.

He can speak 6 languages.

**What a genius.**

F1...sha

**His MBTI personality type is ISTJ.**

F1...sha

The first thing he notices about a person is their intellect.

He completed his Masters in Molecular Medicine at Nazarbayev University, Astana.

**Don't be stupid, kids!**

F1...sha

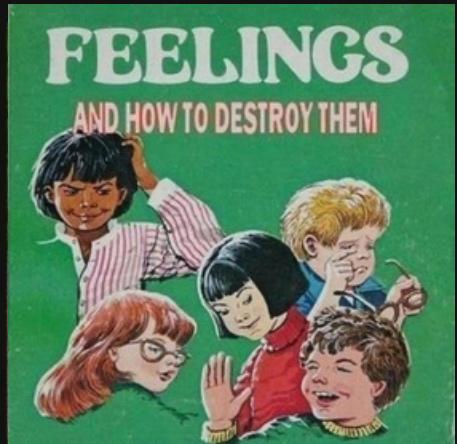
**He is a surgeon.**

F1...sha

If he could only eat a certain food for the rest of his life, it would be lagman.

**Relatable.**

F1...sha

**His favourite part of being a teacher is helping students achieve their full potential.**



**Azat Abugaliyev, 3B**

# **STUDENT OF THE MONTH**

**primary**

- Was certified as the Most Successful Student of the 3rd grade
- Qualified for the GIS Spelling Bee Competition
- Has a hobby of wood cutting, and has cut approximately 20 trees during the previous summer with a plan to sell them
- Improved and enhanced his skills in football
- Can travel 22 km on his bicycle in 1 hour 42 minutes
- Proven to be very independent and responsible, as he can travel by bus on his own and assists with household chores



**Nisso Jetibayeva, 11**

# **STUDENT OF THE MONTH**

**secondary**

- Won a full merit based scholarship for summer camp, studying neuroscience in UC Berkeley
- Researched neurons as a part of her summer program in the UC Berkeley's lab
- Wrote a research paper with a US professor from Boise university about Alzheimer's disease
- Wrote a research paper with her older brother about the genocide of Uyghur people in China
- Received all 5s last year and was awarded a certificate of excellence
- In 7th grade, she volunteered for the summer in a rehabilitation centre for children with cerebral palsy
- Applied to a lot of summer schools last year, and was awarded full scholarships to Boston University and UC Berkeley
- Shadowed a brain surgeon from Uzbekistan to deepen her understanding of the brain

# **Study tips & Resources**

Just as we marked the beginning of the third term, we are already getting close to the midterm examinations. Luckily, we have prepared resources and advice on how to ace them with minimal stress!

Do you have to make a timeline or answer open-ended questions for your history class? Check out history.com and britannica.com, a collection of different events that can give a broader understanding of a particular topic.

Start early!  
Although it may seem that there is still plenty of time to prepare, it is helpful to read some notes and watch topic-related videos on YouTube to get a better understanding.

Use different study techniques and figure out what works best for you. Here are some examples:  
Pomodoro technique, Active recall, and Spaced practice.

Study with your classmates. Recall all the materials you learned along with your friends and classmates. Ask for additional help if needed, and practice “teaching” the topic to remember the material better.

Say it out loud. When cramming new information (sometimes the night before the exam), it's helpful to say what you have just learned out loud.

Make flashcards. It's an easy and quick way to recall information. The perk is that these can be used for completely different subjects, whether you want to check your knowledge of enzymes or the meaning of the word “ambiguous”.

Organized notes and highlighted words are the key to easy revision.

Are you taking STEM subjects for IGCSE, AS Level, or A Level? We got you! Here is the list of websites that can aid your lessons and self-study sessions: A-Level Notes, Dynamicspapers.com, SaveMyExams, physicsandmathstutor.com. These also offer worksheets and questions to work on before your actual exam. Additionally, there are also YouTube channels that immensely help with the preparation, including biology | Cambridge A Level 9700 Biology, Freesciencelessons, OtterBio Tutor.

If you want to learn more about other aspects that have an impact on business operations, socio economic development, and the significance of economics in the modern day, Coursera offers various courses, and some are even taught by university professors.



# Programs for students



## FLEX program

FLEX is a highly competitive, merit-based scholarship program funded by the U.S. Department of State. Study in an American high school for an academic year, live with a host family, and foster life-long friendships. While in the U.S., you will gain leadership skills, learn about American society and values, and teach Americans about your own home country and culture.

### What are the requirements?

- Be a rising 9th and 10th grader
- Complete an online application form and answer three essay questions
- Take a 15-minute English test

### When?

The application opens on 1st September and closes on 10th October. That means you have plenty of time to prepare during a summer break.  
Stay tuned!

## LaunchX

Are you passionate about business or interested in launching your own start-up? If so, join LanchX, the program that helps you gain expertise and guides you to start a real company.

That means you will develop the entrepreneurial mindset to become a decisive problem solver, capable of identifying opportunities, prototyping, and user testing to ensure a customer's need, and pitching to get feedback and support.

Both online and in-person sessions are available.

### What are the requirements?

Be a high school student aged 15-18 at the time of taking this summer course.

Fill in general information

Send school transcripts

Mention all your involvement both in school and outside

Showcase your personality to the admissions team by filming a video or making a presentation

Answer team questions

### When?

LaunchX is still accepting new students on rolling admissions until 24th April 2024

## Smith Pre-College Summer Program

High school students in Pre College Programs join a community of scholars to pursue their academic and extracurricular passions at Smith College. Smith prioritizes its commitment to helping students build college connections—with fellow peers, faculty, staff, and undergraduates. Through daily and intentional after-class activities, the precollege team creates an environment to support growth and community.

Note: Only girls are eligible to apply.

### What are the requirements?

Enter 9-12th grades in the fall of 2024

Fill out an online application

Send school transcripts

Write a motivational letter and a personal essay

Send an English proficiency test(which may be waived)

### When?

The priority application deadline is 4th February 2024

# **Emergency Lockdown Drill**

In some circumstances, an emergency lockdown will have to be conducted throughout the entire school to keep the students and staff protected. The drills have to be regularly practiced so that everyone understands what to do in a dangerous situation, and ensure that we avoid unnecessary responses. Here is how the lockdown procedure should take place:

When you hear:

**Galaxy Uniform was found, Galaxy Uniform was found**

*it means you have to follow the drill*

**DIRECT** all students and staff into the classroom,  
and do not leave it for any reason

**INFORM** the students to turn off all mobile phones  
**LOCK** all the doors

**CLOSE** the windows and blinds and **STAY AWAY**  
from them

**DO NOT OPEN** any of the doors until you hear  
"All clear"

**STAY QUIET!**

If you find yourself in any of these locations, here is how you should proceed:

**Gym:** Go into the locker room and lock all the doors

**Dining hall:** Move to the nearest classrooms

**Outside:** Stop, drop and remain still or huddle around playground equipment. If possible, attempt to move into the building

**Bathrooms:** Move into the stall, lock the door, and crouch on the toilet so your head, hands, and feet are hidden from view

**Hallways:** Move into a classroom immediately

**Library:** Remain in the library. The librarians should lock the door, turn off the lights, and find a safe space to hide in

Please remember to keep calm in these kinds of situations, and follow these instructions to ensure your personal safety and the safety of others.

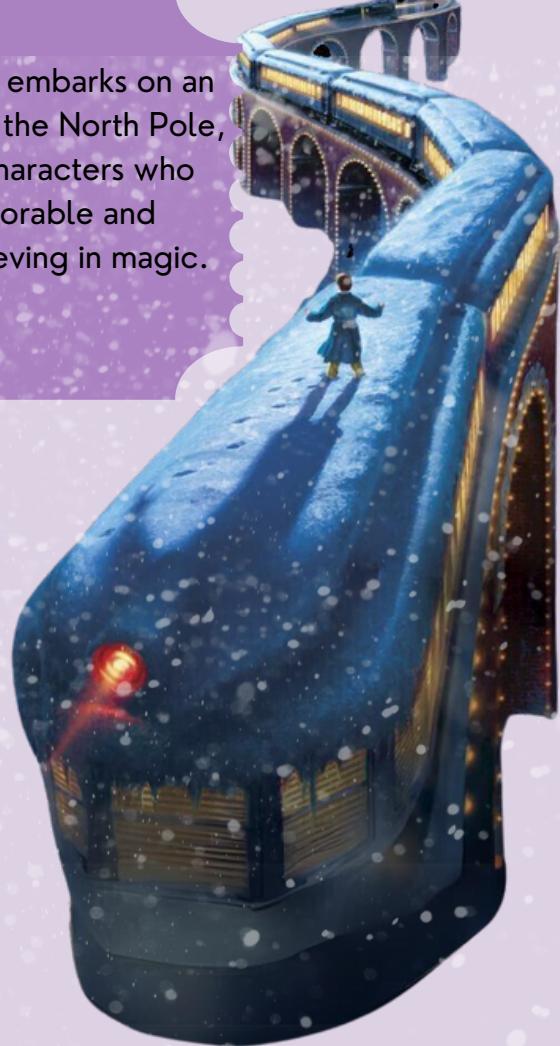
# Winter spirit

## Home Alone (1990, Comedy/Family):

When eight-year old Kevin is accidentally left behind by his family who leave for their holiday in France, he is thrilled to find that he is at home all by himself. However, when he finds out that two burglars are planning to rob his house, he must fend them off and protect himself and his family home.

## The Polar Express (2004,

**Family/Adventure):** A boy embarks on an extraordinary train journey to the North Pole, where he meets fascinating characters who make his trip even more memorable and learns the importance of believing in magic.



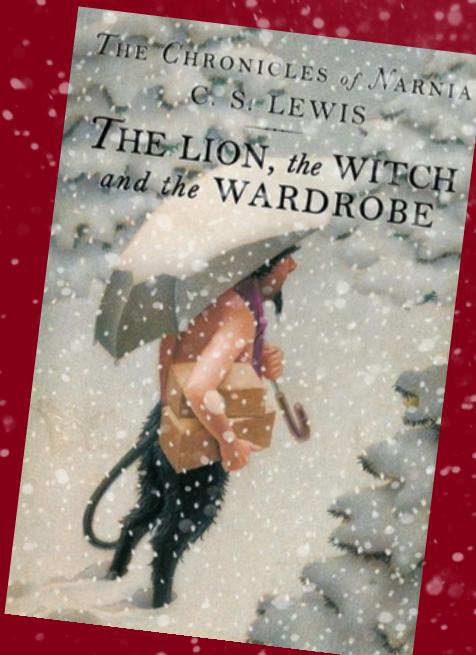
## Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (2004, Romance/Sci-Fi):

The story about a couple who undergo an extreme procedure to erase their memories of each other and avoid the pain of their failed relationship. Later on, they try to find their way back to each other and understand the depth of their love.



## How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000, Comedy/Fantasy):

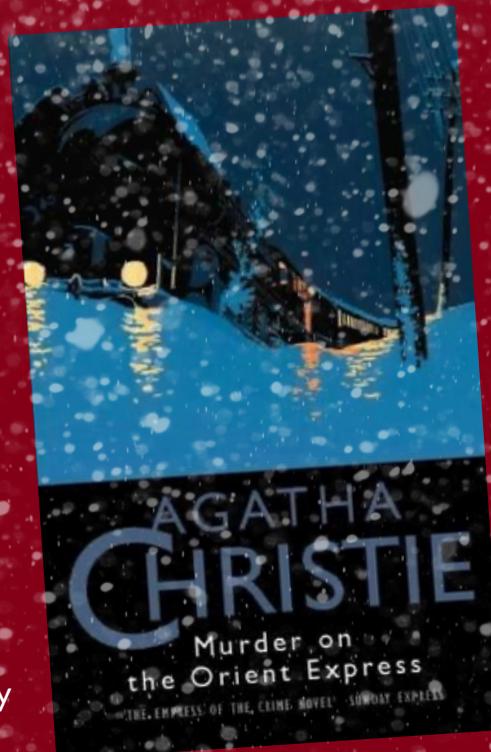
Grinch lives in the mountains, far away from the town Whoville, and absolutely despises Christmas. As he attempts to sabotage the celebration for all the townsfolk, a girl named Cindy Lou sets out to change his view and encourage him to believe in the spirit of the holiday.



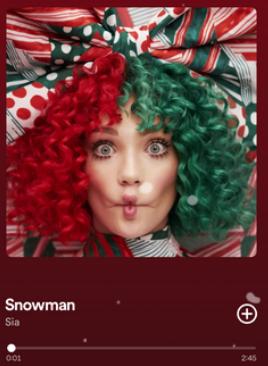
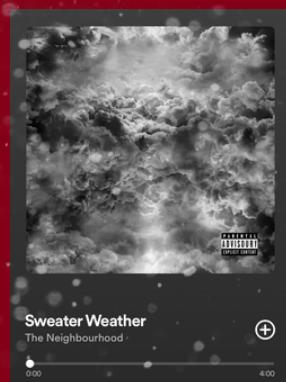
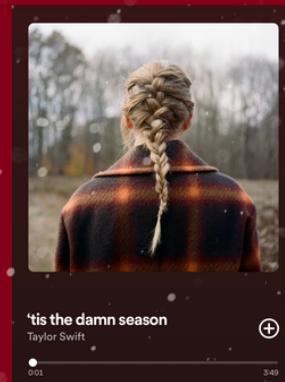
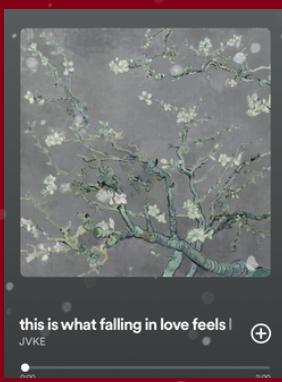
The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe (by C.S. Lewis): When four siblings, Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy, are sent to an English country house, they stumble upon a wardrobe that leads them to the magical land of Narnia. The land is frozen in eternal winter and ruled by the White Witch, who the siblings have to fight against to break her spell with the guidance of Aslan the great lion.



Little Women (by Louisa May Alcott): The story revolves around four sisters living in Massachusetts during the 1860s, as they navigate their impoverished lives and transition into womanhood, while learning lessons about love, family, work, and self-sacrifice.



Murder on the Orient Express (by Agatha Christie): The plot is set in a 1930s train, where an American mogul is found dead in his locked compartment, and foul play is suspected. A passenger on the train, Detective Poirot, is interrupted of his journey to try to solve the case and find the murderer before it's too late.



# Advice for self-care

During midterms, finals, or just an overwhelming week, it's crucial to recharge and rest. Luckily, we have prepared a list of self-care advice that can help!

## **It's okay to take a break!**

We know it may be difficult sometimes to recognize the time to take a break, but it's something you can learn with time. As we overwork ourselves, we slow down our productivity and eventually get burned out.

## **Go for a walk and get enough sleep.**

As much as it sounds obvious, getting a sufficient amount of sleep is something people usually forget to do. A 7-8 hour sleep stimulates our brain to work, increasing our working efficiency, and our memory. It's especially helpful before an exam!

## **Drinking plenty of water and eating well are the keys to success!**

Tip: Before an exam, you may want to snack on some chocolate or a banana.

## **Reach out to your friends and loved ones.**

It can get isolating and lonely, and sometimes you can get caught up in your thoughts. Don't hesitate to reach out to your loved ones! Talk to them more frequently, and if you're studying for finals, invite your friends to join you.

## **Schedule breaks in between your study sessions.**

Consistently studying without stopping can have adverse effects on your effectiveness and health. Try using different studying techniques, such as the Pomodoro method, which can help you efficiently finish your tasks.

Prioritizing your self-care is essential for maintaining your well-being and academic performance. Remember to listen to your body and take breaks, whether it's a short walk, good sleep, or a healthy snack. Additionally, if you feel pressured or stressed out, feel free to talk to the people you love and trust, it can ease your concerns and give you more confidence.

# **New Years's resolutions**

"I hope to improve my Maths knowledge and enhance my art and creativity skills."

-Mir Mihaal Gowhar, Grade 1A

"This year, I want to practice being more social."

-Alisher Nurtas, Grade 7A

"Get into the university of my choice, and enjoy my final year of high school."

-Kamilla Kilambayeva, Grade 12

"Be accepted into a top university, take care of myself physically and mentally, study a lot, and appreciate the people around me."

-Aiym Nurtas, Grade 12



WE ARE

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