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Issue #1

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Learning for a better world
since November 2018

Humanities Week

By Jamilya Kilambayeva, 12

Our school annually holds Humanities Week, a week-long event that celebrates the diversity of human culture, knowledge, and creativity. It's dedicated to learning about the humanities, and its effect on our world. The event usually consists of various activities, discussions, presentations, and games. Aside from encouraging students to explore and learn something new, Humanities Week also allows students to build meaningful connections with each other through different activities.

This year the school took a rather different approach in comparison to the last few years. Each day of the week was dedicated to a specific subject, including History of Kazakhstan, World History, Global Perspectives, and Geography.

On Monday, the students were met with entertainers at the main entrance, while the school walls were decorated with self-made posters that depicted major events from History of Kazakhstan. Moreover, the flyers didn't just picture modern world events, but ancient time periods as well, such as the Stone Age.



On Tuesday, the upper secondary students shared their presentations on events from World History in the Conference Hall. The themes presented included famous politicians, military arm race, the feminist movement, and postwar treaties and their effect on the world.

While Wednesday was a movie day, it was also an opportunity for Grades 9 and 10 to write an individual report that responds to the questions assigned.

Thursday, the last day of Humanities week, involved students from both upper and lower secondary. Grades 9 and 10 debated over thought-provoking topics, while the lower grades competed in the humanities themed Trivia Quiz in the Conference Hall.

As we draw the curtains on another successful Humanities Week, we are reminded of invaluable lessons that the humanities teach us, and appreciate the world around us, the knowledge we gain, and the artistic expressions we create during this special week. We look forward to celebrating Humanities Week next year!



Student Council Presidential Elections

On the 29th of September, our secondary school held the Student Council Presidential Elections. The candidates include Issa Baitore, Medina Shali, Arystan Kairbayev, Aisha Verdieva, and Sung Hyun Kim. Each candidate held a campaign and promoted their plans and ideas with posters, talks with all the classes, and even created a website.



The candidates' several ideas included throwing more celebrations at school (e.g. Halloween, New Year's) and other interesting events, hearing out the students on their ideas and suggestions with a suggestion box, hosting competitions with other schools, and inviting different speakers to give interesting talks.

The elections resulted in Arystan Kairbayev, winning with 53%. He has assembled the Student Council with 14 other students, including Issa Baitore, Diar Yergazin, Nursultan Sharipbay, David Kossenkov, Ali Mussatay, Hakan Aydin, Tomiris Shakenova, Aisha Verdiyeva, Amina Sembayeva, Medina Shali, Bulbul Torekhan, Zeynep Joshkun, Ulviya Choban, Khadizha Aman.



The entire school wishes them the best of luck on their journey of improving the student life and making Galaxy International School a better place!



#PJM13101995BTS130613

NAME: TEACHERS (real names not found)

RECORD ID: GOL0X71997

CRIMES: BEING WONDERFUL; ALWAYS LATE TO CLASSES

STATUS: HIGHLY DANGEROUS

CONFIDENTIAL



SENTENCING INFORMATION

Teacher's Day is a special event celebrated in schools around the world. It serves as a reminder of the critical role teachers play in our lives.

In addition to passing on knowledge, they also establish morals, foster virtue, and motivate us to fulfil our potential. Our school hosted a memorable celebration as a small token of gratitude for their ceaseless efforts.

The celebration began with games held for teachers by the 12th graders, while the students from the 11th grade took on the role of teachers and taught secondary classes, getting a taste of how challenging being a teacher can really be.

The activities both challenged and entertained the teachers. The quest tested the teacher's general knowledge, while also demonstrating their competitive and collaborative abilities.

In addition to the tough game, the instructors had a fun time playing the library games, which featured a variety of games such as; guess the teacher by their childhood photo, guess what's in the box, never have I ever, etc. After the school day ended for the students, the teachers enjoyed a concert dedicated to their celebration.

Overall, the Teacher's Day event was a huge success, with positive feed-back from all the teachers. We hope to plan and experience more activities and events in the future.

CYBER SPORTS

By Jamilya Kilambayeva, 12

Our school places a strong emphasis on sports and the physical well-being of our students. Regardless of their grade level, our students actively participate in a range of physical activities. They are not only an integral part of physical education lessons, but also contribute to fostering a healthy and active lifestyle. Students are offered to play sports, including basketball, football, volleyball, and even tennis. Through playing these sports, pupils don't only stay active, but also get to develop a strong sense of community and teamwork.

Our upper classes have the opportunities to participate in inter-school tournaments. The competitions are a chance to represent our school against other schools, and showcase the students' abilities. The experiences they gain surely contribute to their personal growth and development. Moreover, sports tournaments among educational institutions bring excitement and build a bond not only between players, but the whole school as well, as they express their school pride and spirit. In the last two years, we have competed against different schools in Almaty, such as KTL, Bobek, Haileybury, KIS, and ISA(мша).

Aside from physical sports, our school organizes online tournaments too.

This month, about 40 participants joined the CS:GO to play 5 v 5 matches, where students had to divide into teams of five. The winners of the contest were the teachers, and were awarded a money prize. Shortly after, a Pubg tournament was arranged, 20 people were divided into teams of two to play on Livik map. The students of Grade 6 received a cash prize as well.

It's crucial for our school to celebrate achievements of athletes on the field, and gamers in the virtual arena. This way, students have an opportunity to pursue their passions and acquire invaluable skills and qualities.

Korean Exchange Program



The exchange program organised by GIS and Kwanak High School was a remarkable experience for our students. Over the course of one week, the Korean students had the opportunity to immerse themselves in Kazakh culture, engage in cultural exchanges, and explore the sights and sounds of this vibrant city.

The program itinerary, meticulously planned by our school, allowed students to make the most of their time in Almaty. They were able to witness and participate in various activities that provided valuable insights into Kazakh traditions and daily life.

One of the highlights of the program was the cultural presentation session, where all students had the chance to showcase their respective cultures, schools, and cities. This exchange of knowledge fostered a deeper understanding and appreciation of each other's backgrounds.

"Each Kazakh student was paired with a Korean student, creating a platform for cultural exchange and friendship. This partnership enabled them to communicate, share their cultures, and support each other throughout the program."

Ms. Ayana Khudaibeganova

"The experience was intriguing, and I had the opportunity to understand and experience my Korean acquaintances and their customs. Overall, it was an enjoyable time. I would rate it a 10/10."

Margulan Serikbay, 10A



Ideological Purity

By Bulbul Torekhan, 9

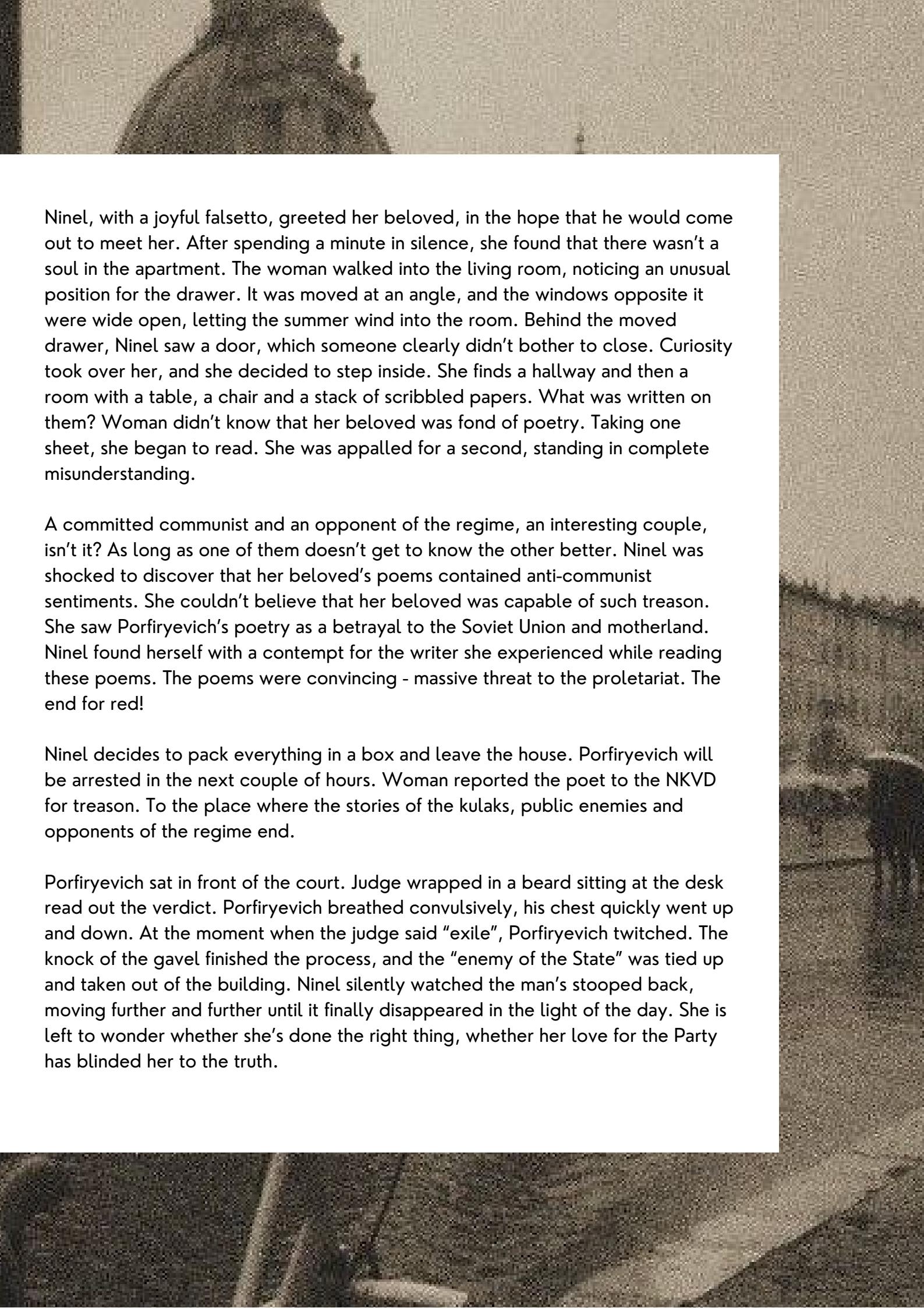
Porfiryevich was silently stooping at an old table, surrounded by piles of papers. He put all his poems, furnished with a desk and a chair this niche, that he found quite recently. This room was hidden - the passage was in a hallway behind the massive drawer. He held an old book in his hand, convulsively writing down something, and then tearing off the sheet and starting again. How did he get here?

Porfiryevich worked as a librarian. Although it was boring, the work was stable. From the very childhood, he had a passion for literature - he read Pushkin, Lermontov, Griboyedov. He took books from the cellars of a country estate, and some were brought here by his father. He seldom visited the library, when this place meant something much more, than just a place for work. At the age of ten, young Porfirievich started his own poetry - he made poems about different things, putting everything that was dear to him on paper. Since the 1917 revolution, his poetry has taken a darker turn. He wrote about the horrors of communism, about the violence and oppression he has witnessed. Porfiryevich hid his poems from everyone, knowing that if they were discovered, he'd be in grave danger. So, how did he get here?

One day, rearranging his stuff, a sheet fell behind a drawer. Exhausted, old Porfiryevich pushed it, finding something much more interesting than a simple piece of paper. A small square door resembling some kind of hiding place. He stepped inside, finding a hallway he never knew about. It was spacious despite the low ceilings, and it led to another room. He went through the dusty corridor, reaching the end of the hallway. Porfiryevich decided to turn it into his office, where he can write without fear of discovery. He moved all his poems there and set up a desk, a chair, and a lamp. He spent every spare moment there, pouring his heart and soul into his writing.

Porfiryevich had a lover - Ninel Artemyevna, a committed communist and a proud member of the CPSU. Ninel recently moved into Porfiryevich's apartments in one of the seven soviet "Stalinkas". Most of the time Ninel spends at work, completing her duty as a society member, leaving Porfiryevich alone.

One day, Ninel came back earlier.



Ninel, with a joyful falsetto, greeted her beloved, in the hope that he would come out to meet her. After spending a minute in silence, she found that there wasn't a soul in the apartment. The woman walked into the living room, noticing an unusual position for the drawer. It was moved at an angle, and the windows opposite it were wide open, letting the summer wind into the room. Behind the moved drawer, Ninel saw a door, which someone clearly didn't bother to close. Curiosity took over her, and she decided to step inside. She finds a hallway and then a room with a table, a chair and a stack of scribbled papers. What was written on them? Woman didn't know that her beloved was fond of poetry. Taking one sheet, she began to read. She was appalled for a second, standing in complete misunderstanding.

A committed communist and an opponent of the regime, an interesting couple, isn't it? As long as one of them doesn't get to know the other better. Ninel was shocked to discover that her beloved's poems contained anti-communist sentiments. She couldn't believe that her beloved was capable of such treason. She saw Porfiryevich's poetry as a betrayal to the Soviet Union and motherland. Ninel found herself with a contempt for the writer she experienced while reading these poems. The poems were convincing - massive threat to the proletariat. The end for red!

Ninel decides to pack everything in a box and leave the house. Porfiryevich will be arrested in the next couple of hours. Woman reported the poet to the NKVD for treason. To the place where the stories of the kulaks, public enemies and opponents of the regime end.

Porfiryevich sat in front of the court. Judge wrapped in a beard sitting at the desk read out the verdict. Porfiryevich breathed convulsively, his chest quickly went up and down. At the moment when the judge said "exile", Porfiryevich twitched. The knock of the gavel finished the process, and the "enemy of the State" was tied up and taken out of the building. Ninel silently watched the man's stooped back, moving further and further until it finally disappeared in the light of the day. She is left to wonder whether she's done the right thing, whether her love for the Party has blinded her to the truth.

Students of the Month

Tolepbergen Dikhan, Grade 11



- Silver medalist in the International Economics Olympiad
- Finalist in the Republic Olympiad of Geography
- Gold medalist in the Republic Olympiad of Financial Security
- Winner of the Global Youth Economics Forum Dream Fund
- Accepted to the Harvard International Relations Scholars Program
- Co-author of a scientific project in economics with a PhD from the Kazakh National University: "Nepotism in the structure of modern corporations"
- Received a full scholarship (\$2800) and worked with a PhD from Cambridge University for the research, "The difference between financial lobbying strategies in private and public companies in the USA"

Students of the Month

Zhulduzbek Khanshayim, Grade 1



- Member of the KFKO federation for Kyokushin Budokai Karate in the Sentoki Dojo club
- Awarded 9 KJ (orange belt with blue stripe), and the 1st youth sports category
- Is the multiple-time champion of Almaty, Astana, Taldykorgan
- Two-time champion of the International tournament
- Four-time champion of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
1st place: "Golden Lion", "White Samurai", "Sentoki cup", "Astana Kyokushinryu Open", "AQ BARS", Republican tournament in Taldykorgan and Almaty
- 2nd place: "Sparta cup", "Kyokushin Budokai Karate", Republican tournament in Astana and Almaty
- 3rd place: Tournament Astana "Astana open IV" and Almaty

Primary teacher of the Month: Inge Slabbert



- Her hobbies include running and hiking. She loves reading too, but often can't find time for it.
- She is from South Africa.
- Her favourite subject in high school was German, and her least favourite was Maths.
- If she could relive a day, it would be her wedding day.
- She loves travelling, her favourite destination is India.
- She has a lot of nicknames. Her Kazakh nickname is Indzu, and everyone calls her that in Kazakhstan.
- She has always wanted to be a teacher, but having studied psychology as well, she wants to work as an educational psychologist one day.
- She is a very optimistic person who finds joy in everything.
- She speaks 4 languages and is currently trying to learn Russian.
- Her favourite author as a child was Maretha Maartens.



Secondary teacher of the Month: Mr. Craig



- He was born in Wales
- His favorite subject in school was History, and his least favorite was Metalwork
- He has a phobia of needles
- He loves animals, and grew up with rabbits, cats, dogs, and hamsters as pets
- He self-describes himself as an introvert
- He enjoys exercising and keeping fit
- He once skydived in New Zealand
- His favorite travel destinations are Japan and Kazakhstan
- If he wasn't a History teacher, he would be a professional sportsman (athletics or football)
- He loves watching rugby

New School Clubs



Good news, we have two additional school clubs for the secondary students to participate in!

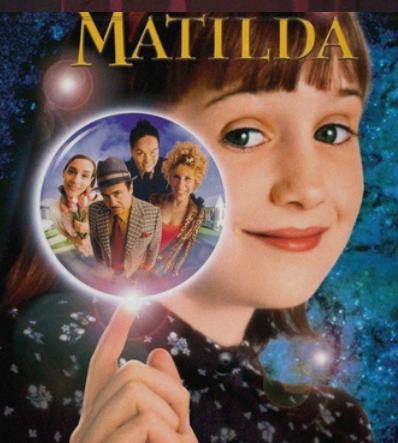
The first one is the Web Design Club, organized and mentored by Andrey Enchik from the 11th grade. While learning a wide range of topics that span from design concept, to color work, and even typography, students will learn to utilize these skills to create and design different posters, websites, and applications. They will apply this knowledge and work with software programs like Adobe Photoshop, AfterEffects, Tilda, and Figma. So if you're interested in web design particularly or just want to explore a new area of art and technology, join the club after school on Wednesdays and Fridays from 16:30-17:30. The club is available for students from Grades 6-9, and will be officially in session from the 8th of November.

If you are someone who is fascinated by theater and the performing arts, then Drama Club is right for you. Initially, the club was formed for students to practice their skills in English, particularly speaking. However, it has developed into a fun team of students and teachers who produce and perform different plays and performances, such as their production titled, "Sketches of a Teenage Life". Not only is the club a great practice to become more fluent, it also encourages students to be more confident with public-speaking. The club is held once a week during a double lesson (Periods 7-8), for Grades 6-8. Currently, there are auditions being held for a new musical, so any student with a passion for singing and dancing is welcome to participate.

Fall spirit Movies



Coraline (2009, Drama/Family): A dark fantasy story that follows a girl named Coraline, who just moved into a new house with her family, and discovers the secret door behind which a whole new alternative world is hidden.



Matilda (1996, Drama/Family): A story about an independent and intelligent girl named Matilda, who develops telekinetic abilities to save her classmates and teacher, Ms. Honey, from the cruel school principal, Ms. Trunchbull.



Knives Out (2019, Drama): A reputable crime novelist is found dead in his own bed after the celebration of his 85th birthday. However, after the detective digs further into the investigation, it's revealed that everybody has sinister intentions.



Over the Garden Wall (2014, Adventure): The series centers around two half-brothers who travel across a mysterious forest to find their way home, encountering a variety of strange and fantastical things on their journey.

Books & Music

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone: The book is about an eleven year old orphan boy named Harry Potter, who receives a letter of invitation to Hogwarts, a school for witchcraft and wizardry. Even as he escapes his dreary life and enters a world of magic, he finds trouble awaiting him.

The Hazel Wood: Alice's only lead is the message her mother left behind: "Stay away from Hazel Wood." Alice has long steered clear of her grandmother's cultish fans. But now, she has no choice but to ally with classmate Ellery Finch, a Hinterland superfan who may have his own reasons for wanting to help her.

The Cruel Prince: The Cruel Prince follows Jude Duarte, who was taken to Elfhame after witnessing her parents' death, and is raised with her sisters among the fey. She is desperate to prove herself and find a place in a society that despises mortals, and encounters the youngest Prince, Cardan.

My tears ricochet - Taylor Swift



Cardigan - Taylor Swift



O Children - Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds



Scott Street - Phoebe Bridgers



Goals for the Year

Bekzhan, 12

"This year, I am planning to learn to draw the portrait of Socrates, and play tennis professionally."

Adiya, 8

"I will try to focus on learning new languages, and preparing for my Checkpoint exams that will take place at the end of the year."

Justin, 11

"For this academic year, I'm planning to improve my grades and to read the Campbell Biology book to prepare for the upcoming Biology Olympiad."

Amira, 8

"Overall, I plan to take part in various olympiads and improve my grades."

Akan, 12

"I want to win a basketball tournament and get an A from A level Maths."

Inzhu, 10A

"My goal for this academic year is to successfully pass English and Maths IGCSE and receive an A*."

Laliya, 10B

"My goal for this year is to research more about my future profession, and dedicate more time for practicing. Furthermore, I want to improve my English vocabulary by reading books and watching movies in English."



Advice from Seniors



"Be consistent and disciplined when working towards your goals, not just 'boom' of motivation. Patience is key, wait for your moment to shine bright like a diamond."

Islam Amangeldi, 12

"Never give up and remember that everything happens for a reason. Things will end up the way they're supposed to."

Lina Yeleuova, 12



"Be realistic in your goals to avoid unnecessary disappointment in the future. If you really are that ambitious, then work equally hard for your goals. Do not expect things to turn out your way unless you work hard enough."

Fihaal Gowhar Mir, 12

"Don't forget why you are in this world. Value time, health and loved ones. Learn and develop, invest in yourself, do not waste your most valuable resource - time. Don't lose hope for the best and confidently step forward. Everything that happens to you is all from yourself. Respect everyone and you will be respected."

Issa Baitore, 11



WE ARE

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