

# STUDENT MAGAZINE

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# GREAT START TO THE YEAR



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hello!

We hope you are having a great start to the year, and that the first weeks of school haven't been too tough.

In this first edition of the Student World Magazine of this school year, you are going to find a lot of different interesting articles, stories and reviews that we hope you enjoy. We are really impressed with everyone who took part, so thank you!

We are already looking forward on working on the next edition and we encourage everyone to participate.

Sincerely,

The Editorial Team of Student World Magazine.



Congratulations to Aurora in Year 10 for her amazing work in media studies.



# THE NEW IGCSE

Our school has started offering a new IGCSE in media studies. To learn a bit more about this subject, we decided to ask Miss Mashford, the Media Studies teacher, a few questions on the subject and how she became a Media Studies teacher.

## What did you study at university to become a Media Studies teacher?

At university, for my undergraduate BA degree, I did English and Art joint honours, and then I did some work experience in the industry, because I was really interested in it. Later, I completed a Master's Degree in Multimedia Broadcast Journalism and then I did my JTP following that.

## How long have you been teaching the subject?

I've been teaching the subject for about five or six years.

## What do you enjoy the most about Media Studies?

That's a good question. One thing I like is that it combines lots of different skills and different things, because you have to analyse media texts but then you have to be creative with your own ideas, and sort of sketch them out, so there's a bit of art in it as well; and then have knowledge of how to use different programs. And you can create something that looks quite professional using software that isn't of industry standards, which is really fun and it's nice seeing what students create.

## In what way or ways is Media Studies used in the outside world?

There are lots of things that you can talk about in terms of that, because obviously first of all you've got the idea that when you are analysing media texts there are different pieces of media around you and you kind of look at it in a more critical way which I think makes it more interesting, and because you aren't just thinking that you like it but you are thinking why you like it and what it's trying to communicate and why, this makes you appreciate things at a different level. Looking ahead in terms of career, if you are interested in journalism or in any other sort of production work, increasingly lots of jobs need you to have a good knowledge of online texts and to be able to use lots of computer programs. Media studies helps you with that and teamwork skills are also developed in media studies.

## What will the Media Studies IGCSE be about?

We have already started it and it has a mixture of things, so you have certain products you have to study such as adverts, music videos, magazines and trailers and you need to study those products in detail; these are called the close study products. You also need to be able to use Media terminology confidently and analyse other media texts that aren't in the booklet we use, you should be able to do this because of the practice that we do in class. We also do research on a different context, what a certain historical period

was like and how that was reflected in the

media texts that were created. You also need knowledge of the key concepts which are audience, representation, institution and media language because they are kind of the main sectors and in terms of those things, we look at those across all types of media, so online, print and broadcasting.

## And now for the students who are currently doing the media studies IGCSE, what are your top tips for the subject?

Learn the media terminology

Learn as many different terms as you can, so that you can write in a more sophisticated way, and it means that if a question comes up asking you about that you can answer very easily

Read the question, because there are sometimes some trick questions.

Make sure you have read and keep going back to the close study booklet carefully as there is some useful information in there.

## Is there a message you would like to give to your future students?

I think media studies is a great subject. I hope you like it, I hope you feel motivated and see you next year.

By Lucía, Milly and Blanca Y10B.

# **European Youth Parliament. How we got to organise a Regional Session.**

Last year, we attended the first Asturian Regional selection conference of the European Youth Parliament. Through the duration of this session, we got a brief introduction into what the organisation was like and it was nothing like we expected.

Apart from the obvious professionalism and valuable knowledge we gained from our experience, we found the organisation, European Youth Parliament España or EYPE for short is much more than the European Youth Parliament, and much more than just an organisation. We attended the national selection conference, which we can all agree was one of the funniest experiences of our lifetimes, and being selected to become part of the organisation was even more exciting. It seemed like the start of something great, and so it was.

After attending the annual meeting, which was nothing like we expected, we decided to embark on a much more scary journey, organizing the second Asturian Regional Selection Conference. Due to this experience, we've massively improved our team working and organizational skills, and slowly seeing a project like this come to reality, is making us even more excited to continue.

Our session will be taking place in Gijón, from the 9th to the 11th of March, and even though the school's team has already been chosen for this year, I encourage anyone that is thinking about enrolling in this organisation in future years to give it a shot, as i assure it will be an unforgettable and unique experience, and it will definitely be worth it.

Martín García Y13



# Asturias' First Bilingual School Story

Although today we consider our school as a growing and flourishing community, it wasn't always like this. Since its inauguration it has sometimes struggled and had challenges to overcome in the past.

It was first founded in 1988 by D. Ángel Fernández (who already had an academy) and María Dolores Fernández in Oviedo, specifically located in Colloto. The idea the creators had in mind, was for a bilingual private school like the one it is today, making it the first foreign school in Asturias. It was called the International School of George Washington. The property it had consisted of 20.000m<sup>2</sup> with two buildings which were not designed to be a school, but formed a mansion; it also had a library, that was used for studying and exams.

Time passed and the students learnt great English as they still do today, but some financial difficulties caused the system to crumble. The school was left without a head master nor a direction to head in. But the parents were determined for their children to advance their bilingual education, so they came together and continued their aspiration; they recreated the school into what we know today as the English School of Asturias.

As the parents plan went ahead, some of the students opted for another type of education while others stayed. As the new institution was being created, students had to attend other schools in the time being.

Firstly, this reconstruction of the bilingual educational system was done with “Cambridge” and others, and located in Oviedo, but not for a long time. In 1992 it moved to Llanera. Throughout the years its location has changed, becoming a modern bilingual school, bettering the education for all those that attend it.



# ROBOT WAR

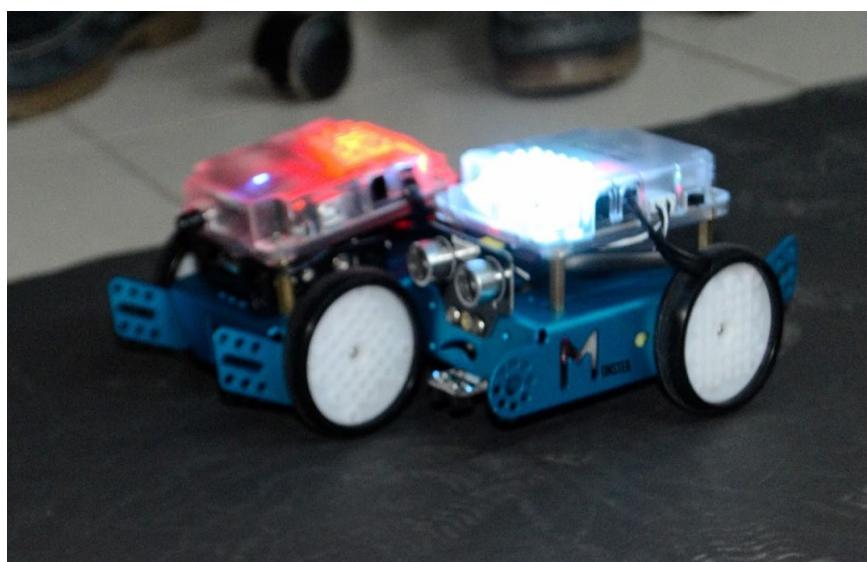
Early this term, the computer science department began a brutal bloodsport between their very own creations. These "Gladiators" where Frankenstein's monsters, fighting to their gory deaths.

Created by the bright minds studying computer science at IGCSE level, these "Robot warriors" were vigorously and carefully programmed to fight until one was victorious. The "Mighty machines" were armed with sensors to engage in almost sumo-like battles where if one were to leave the marked area, they would fail there objective and be totally immobilized.

For many classes, the students learned how to program in advanced programming software, modified to be able to give instructions to the robots. Once the students knew the concept and how it works they were divided into different squads, with the aim of coding the best "War Machine". To differentiate the robots, when grouped together in clusters, it was specified to the coders to instruct the automations to maintain a certain colour light display.

For weeks upon end, the instructors would often play as a treat, whilst still advance their knowledge of the AI behind the droids. They would constantly be improving the programing behind the machines and increasing their probability to win the final battle. As the battles got more intense due to the increased time spent programing and developing strategies, the challenges the creators faced also increased. One of the tasks for the drones and coders to accomplish included stealing a balloon from a fellow robots chassis. This advanced task involved using sensoring to find the exact placement of the balloon.

This was a new high for the Computer Science Department, combining both fun and work whilst still making students use their minds in creative ways. Pupils stated "It was really good fun to bring our own robots to life and programme it how we wished" and "It was great fun". All in all, both the year 10's, and 11's, enjoyed this new experience and had great fun in their ROBOT WARS!



# THE KEY TO THE PERFECT CRIME

It had been a long and excruciating night for us. Vin was on the drill and Rider was still complaining about the danger of the job.

*"Eight hours, Eight bloody hours for £100k per person, my nans pulled bigger jobs,"* moaned Rider, in his usual, arrogant fashion. Rider was posh. He was the kind of guy that wouldn't care about killing you, but would care about getting blood splatter on his three-piece suit.

Vincent, well Vincent was an absolute idiot, but a character to say the least. *"The best cracker in England,"* they called him. He was tall, lanky and with ears the size of bricks. Although, despite his awfully short memory, he would never forget a safe's code.

After being in that god forsaken tin can for too many hours to count, Vin got the gigantic metal door open. What we saw inside was incredible.

Ten times our estimate! Ten times the money we thought would be in there was staring at us in the face, and we stared back. Hills of cash, gleaming in their glory. Not a single note would be left behind. Rider was the first to speak.

*"Our wishes have been answered boys, let's get the money and get out before things get messy."*

We packed our sacks, our jackets, more than we could carry, or that we would ever need, was resting on our shoulders. We weren't going to leave a thing.

Rider flicked through the money slowly, making sure it was real and untraceable. As we picked up the last wad of bills, I spotted a small red light in the corner of my eye and wailed.

*"ALARM! GO, GO, GO!"*

As we slammed that steel safe behind us, I was taken back to my youth. I froze. With memories of jail flooding back to me in a pool of despair. My ears were buzzing. My vision blurred.

## *"MOVE YOU IDIOT"*

Rider was millimetres away from my face, screaming, I gathered my thoughts and concentrated on escaping with my freedom still intact. Once he realised I was back on track, Rider charged in front: he had the best aim. In my state, if it were to come down to it, I would have trusted him more with my life more than myself.

When we emerged from the basement of the bank, we heard the sirens of the cops in the distance, screaming that terrifying song, like falcons hawking before feasting upon their helpless prey. My heart raced, my brain began throbbing and tears of sweat began rolling down my forehead into an ocean of fear. I could taste iron in my mouth as I reflected over what would happen if I got caught. What if they knew all along? What if they saw us coming? I recapped on my stint in jail a few years back. I couldn't go back there again! I barely survived last time!

We ran like the wind, for what was really seconds, but felt like hours. Never-the-less, we made it. That beautiful van, about to be packed with our millions and driven off into the sunset. I looked around me, I noticed that Vin was looking disturbed.

"Hey guy," he said, "I think I forgot the keys".

By Lucas Parfitt Y 10B



# PING PONG IN THE ESA



For the last year one of the most played sports in break times is ping-pong. It is mostly played by Y7 and Y8. It is a game that uses small bat, a light ball and is normally played on a rectangular table with a net in the middle like in the picture below. One of the players has been interviewed by the Student Magazine, this is what he told us:

- + What makes you like to play it?
  - It entertains you, when I started last year I wasn't the best, but I have improved.
- + If football is the game most people play, why play ping pong?
  - I wanted to try something new and I loved it.
- + When and where did you start playing?
  - A year ago in school .
- + Have you always played this?
  - Sometimes I decide to play something else but I usually do play it.
- + What game do you play?
  - We usually play rondo, a game in which you spin around the table hitting the ball to pass it to the other side.
- + Something to add?
  - You need to try it, it is a brilliant sport to play in breaks.
- + Thank you.

We hope the game will still be played and that this can encourage people to start playing this sport.

By Pelayo

# TRANSITION TO YEAR 12

We all know the transit from one year to the next is always hard. However, the benefits that Year 12 has brought us, have made this transition easier.

We've experienced good things, such as a lot more freedom, which makes us feel more trusted. In Year 12 we have the option of choosing the subjects we like, so this makes our academic journey easier. However, this does not mean its easy! Year 12 is a year of hard work and dedication.

*This year is being an important year for my academic development. I think I've chosen the subjects that best suit me. I'm doing economics, business studies, PAU economía, maths and French, and although I'm having some tough times with Economics, I'm really enjoying it. This year I'm looking forward to succeed and to do my best.*

Violeta

*I've chosen to do a completely different group of subjects than Violeta. I'm doing biology, chemistry, business and PAU maths. I really believe Year 12 is better than Year 11 as I feel much more trusted and it is helping me to focus more on my studies.*

*Like María, I've chosen to take the medical science path. I must say its being hard and much more difficult than last year, but I'm looking forward to improving and getting good grades in AS, with hard work.*

To conclude, we are all looking forward to all the new experiences that are yet to come and we expect being able to face them together.

By Violeta, María and Blanca Y12



# Movie Reviews !

## coco

**Synopsis:** Miguel's adventure starts when he decides to step out of his family 'tradition' of having music completely banned, to pursue his dreams of becoming a musician just like his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz. In his mission to prove everyone how great and meaningful music can be, Miguel finds himself in the Land of Dead, where he meets with his ancestors and makes wonderful friends such as Hector, and has incredible adventures to reveal the truth about his family history.

During his adventures and failures, Miguel learns the true meaning of how important family, traditions and his beautiful Mexican culture are, while at the same time following his dreams and making them a reality.

**Opinion:** The movie has a great multicultural message which couldn't come at a better time. The Mexican culture is very rich and interesting; for example, their belief that there are three types of deaths: the actual death, the burial, and oblivion. It is a very fun and emotional movie to watch while learning intriguing facts about such an amazing and often misunderstood and criticised culture. No matter what your age is, I am positive you will love this movie and I totally recommend it.



## Thor Ragnarok

**Synopsis:** the movie begins with Thor being imprisoned by the fire demon Sutur after his search for the Infinity Stones. The demon tells Thor that Odin is no longer in Asgard and that Ragnarok, the end of Asgard, is arriving. Not much later, Odin dies and Hela, goddess of death and Thor and Loki's sister, appears and takes control of Asgard. The movie then basically splits into two separate narratives: Thor having to escape from the planet Sakaar, and Hela's control of Asgard.

**Opinion:** I had already watched two of Thor's firms and I really loved them, so I'd been wanting to watch this last one since I knew it was coming out. But I must say, if you are looking for something similar to the first movie, you are not going to find it. The film wasn't what I expected, but not necessarily in a bad way. Whilst other Thor movies were more kind of 'dramatic', this one is a comedy more than anything: you are constantly laughing and the acting is great, but it wasn't what I was looking for, and I wouldn't describe it as an adventure movie. I wish Hela had been presented more in depth and we had gotten to know more things about how Asgard and the Seven Kingdoms were actually conquered; it would have been great to get to know more about the Valkyries too. And, unluckily, there was no romance, which was quite a let down. But the good news is: **Loki is back!** He is possibly the most entertaining antihero and clearly my favourite Marvel character.

In conclusion, it is amusing movie to watch and the actors are really great, but the plot is kind of shallow, so do not wait for something nearly as great as the first Thor movie.

# International Day for the Elimination of Violence against women

On the 25th of November it was International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. In Spain many protests and demonstrations took place, including here in Oviedo. Women and girls marched together showing strength in numbers. So what is this day all about? Well, according to the UN, violence against women is one of "the most devastating human rights violations". They also say that "Violence against women is the most extreme form of [sexual] discrimination". And the statistics to go with this statement are just as shocking; 20% of women aged 16 to 49 surveyed in 2016 had experienced physical or sexual violence in the last twelve months from an intimate partner, and just under 50% of all women who were murdered last year were killed by an intimate family member or partner.

Protesting in the streets might not seem to be the best option to solve the issue but it is part of the answer. Through these protests, awareness is brought to the issue. After last year's protests, searches for the statistics on violence against women grew substantially. The UN has launched a project called "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence".



This project is encouraging people to raise awareness about this issue in their local area between the 25th of November and the 10th of December. The slogan for the campaign is "Leave no one behind: end violence against women and girls." The colour orange has been chosen to represent this day and this movement. As a bright and optimistic colour, orange represents a future free from violence against women and girls.

Through the efforts made by individuals as well as large organisations, such as the UN, people become more aware of this issue and the gravity of the situation,

and therefore the number of people participating in demonstrations against violence towards women and girls has considerably increased over the last years.

Yet still, 1 out of 3 women, experience **violence in their lifetime in every country and every society**. The aim of this day and campaigns like the UN's is to end this, through education and empowering women by giving them the confidence they need to tackle gender inequalities.

Laws and policies can also often play a positive role in changing attitudes and behaviour in the long term. **A historically high number of laws and policies against violence are now in place to protect women**, yet with implementation is still lagging. **However** the message is clear.

As a community, we men and women should eradicate this kind of behaviour. Our efforts might look in vain, but together we can make a difference **so that women and girls around the world can live free from harassment, harmful practices, and all other forms of violence**.

Every woman and every girl has the right to a life, a life free of violence.

**By Kaia Dendaluce and Cristina J. Ibáñez**

# **TALENT SHOW!!!**

The talent show, presented by Victoria and Guille (Y13B), was full of surprises, there was dancing, singing, as well as some very random acts. Most of them were very entertaining, and the audience did laugh a lot, meaning that Alfonso (Y13A), Cecilia (Y13A), Miss Mac and Jose, the judges of the show, did not have an easy job.

The winner of the talent show was Manuel from Year 7A, who is an excellent drummer, with a score of 9.6, followed by Ana.V in Year 8B with 9.5 points. Third place was won by the teachers with a score of 9.4. So congratulations to the three winners!

We also have to congratulate everyone who participated and was brave enough to stand up on the stage in front of everyone to show their talent, it is not as easy thing to do, so well done!

<https://youtu.be/sTXKgMUKWHU>