



OPINION / EDITORIAL

MASTHEAD

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WANT TO MAKE THIS PAPER? DEDICATED? HELP US HELP YOU **INCREASE YOUR** PUBLISHING EXPERIENCE.

By Aarti Patel

High school is a time where many teenagers try to find themselves. At King, many students join different clubs, sports teams and councils to help discover their strengths and build their confidence. In my life, my martial arts training helped me build my selfconfidence.

When I first started taekwon-do, I often trained as the only girl in my classes. Many boys teased me for punching softly and getting tired quickly. Too shy to argue back, I remained silent and passive. 'Quiet mouse' was my nickname.

My master told me "Sometimes Aarti, you are fighting yourself in your training. When you don't believe that you can do it, your biggest opponent is yourself." Training five days a

week, my master's words of wisdom filled the class with optimism. The dojang was the only place I could escape the darkest moments of my childhood. I was bullied in elementary school and suffered from very low self-esteem.

At my green belt test, I was instructed to break wood for the first time 1 did not think I was

capable with such flimsy skinny arms. I hit, it didn't break. Second time, not a single dent. Out of frustration, my master shouted for me to picture my

hand going through and past the board. "Aarti, you need to

have the right mindset. Learn to vision more for yourself," he said.

Kicking in some earned confidence

I did. I smashed the wooden board with a knife-hand strike into three pieces. My face lit up with surprise.

These are the experiences that made me recognize the power of mind. I told myself I will break my boards. I will jump. I will scream. I will kick. Double kick. Triple kick.

From that point on, the "quiet mouse" wasn't so quiet anymore. Having gained confidence in my abilities as a martial artist, I looked for new opportunities to learn and improve my skills.

Taekwon-do is a part of me both within and outside of the dojang. I learned how to stand up for myself, I was never bullied again, from the mental strength I had gained from practicing Taekwon-do. There was a shift in my personality, I felt a wave of positive energy and happiness. I was stronger, happier and more comfortable with myself.

Over the years, I've noticed that more females are getting into ITF Taekwon-do competitions, but still I sense a barrier that keeps women from showing interest in male-

dominated activities. As a "**Taekwon-**do is little girl, I thought my only options both within and were to outside of the dance or do yoga. However, the expectation of being "lady-like" has start-

ed to lose traction in modern society. From punches, strikes and

A note from your editors:

a part of me

dojang."

Thank you for picking up a copy of the Kingsley Voice On behalf of the council, we're happy to share this newspaper with you. Within these pages are the culmination of months of work put in by all the members of Kingsley Voice. All of the people you see in the masthead to the left have put in a lot of hard work and dedication. Some of our new members have either never taken the senior Media Studies course and some haven't taken the grade ten literacy course, so it's doubly an achievement for us this year to put together this paper! For the two of us, it was our first running the paper and we recruited a brand new team of budding journalists, artists, designers, and

dreamers. It was a challenge to teach the council the experience earnedthrough last year's efforts



It's important to have confidence in yourself to help realize your full potential and doing something like martial arts to push yourselves is a great way to test your limits.

kicks, this art can be practiced by both females and males. Selfimprovement and Taekwon-do are universal, and it transcends arbitrary distinctions like race and gender.

Now this is only the start to my taekwon-do journey, I continue to discover the greater significance behind the art every day. Taekwon-do is what helps me build my confidence, but it is important for everyone to have an element in their

life that guides them on their path towards selfactualization. As teenagers, sometimes we might feel a bit out of place as we figure out our identities.

At King, we have many clubs, teams and councils. Don't be afraid to take on new opportunities and get out of your comfort zone. Figuring out who you are means allowing yourself to grow. Every day we all learn and try to make ourselves better.



Dear Reader, JOIN THE KINGSLEY

VOICE COUNCIL

2017-2018



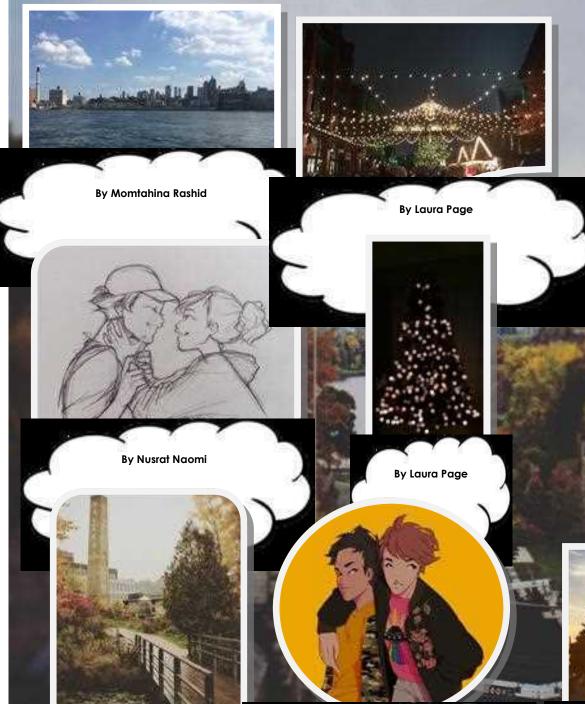
but we think this paper shows off that learning well. Despite the challenges and the constraints they had to work within, the Kingsley Voice legacy continues with another successful paper filled with the stories the team has worked hard to create with this, our special holiday issue that highlights just how great our school is!

We're proud to share a newspaper that represents our experiences at R.H. King.

Happy holidays from Aarti, Timur, and the whole Kingsley Voice team!

Co-Editors in Chief Timur Saiful and Aarti Patel.

SPOTLIGHT ------



The Switch

By Kaleigh MacMillan

This was the most terrifying thing I've ever faced... delivering a speech about gender equality to an audience of twohundred women, and even more because this was being broadcasted on live television. My name is Leo Mitchell, I'm twenty-four years old from Ontario. Ever since I can remember, women ruled politics; there was only one male Prime Minis-

ter and he was in office for three months. The rest of them were women. I have a sister, I keep trying to talk to her, but she doesn't understand. I can't recall the last time a woman looked into my eyes first instead of my chest. My mom said to my father "I'll always wear the pants in the family, Harold!" to which he replied with "Don't worry, dear. Do you want your pants ironed for tomorrow?" I want to be the change for men in my city, my province and maybe even my country! And that's why I'm here, sweating like a dog in front of all these judgmental women. I cleared my throat. I began. I was engaging, inspiring and downright wonderful... At least that's what a few men were telling me after. While I was delivering my speech, there were comments. "What is he wearing?" one woman said with disgust. "Why is he showing off his biceps? What a whore!" said another. I was frozen in place. They weren't listening to anything I said. They were just focusing on my body. I shouldn't be surprised, after all, it's 2017!



By Momtahina Rashid

Benumbed by Saptarshi Dutta

A boy, sixteen years of age, was walking down the dimly lit streets of London. Where exactly in London? He hadn't the slightest clue. The last thing he remembered was his mother, Lady Arabella, throwing a silver goblet his way, then absolute darkness. A while ago, the boy had been shaken awake by some passers-by outside his family residence...or what *used* to be his family residence.

"Sinner! Traitor!" his parents had called him.

By Raza Duranni

Theodore Oliver was a sinner. His offense was falling for a woman whose family did not believe in God, let alone Jesus. Being a deeply religious family, the Olivers were not pleased when Theodore had introduced his love, Lady Margaret. They had not done anything harsh in her presence last night. Regardless, they could not have Theodore eat at the same table as them, on the night before



Christmas. Ergo, they kicked him out. So there he was, strolling through the snow alone on Christmas Eve, his growling stomach drowning out the faint sound of carolers in the distance. He glanced down at his watch; it was nine o'clock. It wouldn't be rude to head over to Margaret's house at this time. On the contrary, what would remain of his dignity if Theodore were to show up to his lady's house unannounced, let her family know he had been thrown out, and had no means to support himself and Margaret should they marry in the future?

It was unimaginable. He couldn't humiliate himself more than he was sure he would be by tomorrow morning; the entire community would have found out about his banishment. Also, if people found out he was broke without his father's money, he would be ridiculed!

By Nusrat Naomi

With nowhere to go, Theodore lay down on a building's steps. Hours must have passed, when he woke up to warm hands touching his knees. Margaret's gentle face was smiling down at him, everything around them surprisingly bright. She began walking away and

he reached out for her hand. In theory, his fingers should have

brushed hers, but all he felt was cold nothingness.

Theodore Oliver. Sinner.



75th Reunion at King

By Aarti Patel

This year the remarkable group of veteran students celebrated their seventieth consecutive reunion at King, the very building that wove their everlasting friendship.

From restaurants to personal homes, the high school reunions were always hosted on the first Wednesday of every October.

Edna Tiller, a former graduate, entered R.H. King Academy for the first time since her graduation seventy years ago. She was very surprised by the building when she first arrived at the school parking lot.

"It is so strange. Everything is so different. The building is twice as big as it was before. I wouldn't even know where to go or where anything is. I saw the arches at the front but the building used to be smaller," she says.

This year's special event was organized by Norma McGirr, a former graduating student, with the help of her sons and staff at King. She explains that this tradition all began because of the great words of their previous teacher, Alice Carnaghan.

"Our teacher, told us to meet up and stay friends every year. She taught us to have good relationships with each other and stay in touch no matter what," McGirr says.

Outside, by the arches, a maple tree has been planted in honor of Ms. Carnaghan, the woman who pushed her students to the value their friendships. All of the veterans were escorted by the King students to the staff lounge. United together, the veterans demonstrated a strong bond and connection, which inspired many current students still in the building.

With the new digital age, perhaps it will be easier for King students today to stay in touch with friends after high school, yet it is important for students know that the true quality of their friendship can only be reflected when students continue to spend time with each other in person as well

The beneficial modified school year



The modified school year is meant to be a constructive and beneficial change for life at R.H. King. The pilot project is now in year two of a three year plan to see if this is something that staff and students want for the long run.

By Lia Aziz

The modified school year is a change during the year that is hopefully positively affecting students at R.H. King.

The modified school year provides students with a week off from school in November but starts the school year a week early.

As the middle of a semester approaches, the work builds up and stress levels are at an all-time high.

The week off provides students a chance to prepare by catching up on missed work and working ahead.

Bavisha Thavarajah, a grade 10 student at R.H. King enjoys the break. "The weeks before midterms get very busy, so this is the time where we can set different goals for the upcoming weeks," she says. The week off also pro-

vides students some time to do things other than school work. Dasha Grigorovich,

a grade 12 student, uses the week to con-The week off sider her fuprovides stuture school . dents a chance options. "The to prepare by week off is a catching up on great oppornissed work.³ tunity for grade twelves to go visit

universities, something we wouldn't have time for without the break," she says.

Starting the school year early is impacting the incoming students in a positive way as well. As grade nines are just beginning to start their journey at king, some see the early start as a way to familiarize with the school.

"The early start gives the grade nines who are brand new to the school, a sense of how it runs and more time to get accustomed to it," says Anonto Barua, a

grade 9 student However, there are some disadvantages to the early start.

Some students feel that they are losing part of their summer and they can't enjoy the week off the same way they would in the summer.

"When we start a week early, it feels like our summer isn't over yet and we're missing it. Even though we get a week off, we don't enjoy the warm weather and having long vacations outside of the country," Tireni Ogunmoyero says.

Grigorovich also sees how students might not like the early start. "It means the summer gets cut short, which is hard. I think the students would rather have an extra week of school at the end of the year," she says.

To help the school make an informed decision based on how both staff and students alike are responding to the project, which runs for at least one more year, a regular survey is done to assess the overall response, the latest one having been given on December 14.

For more information on the modified school year, students can visit the official R.H. King website.

The mysteries of dating at King

By Gogilan Selvarajah

With Christmas around the corner, many Canadians are wondering who they'll be snuggling by the fire with this holiday season.

For some of the grade twelve students of R.H. King, it looks like it'll be their textbooks. With a plethora of ambitious grade 12 students seeking prestigious scholarships, competitive averages, and leadership positions within their community, many students feel they do not have the time to worry about romance. student who identifies as pansexual say there's a lot of people who still haven't chosen to come out. "If you don't know who's gay and who's not, how are you supposed to find someone?"

Mr. Jermyn, a physics teacher who has been working at R.H. King for 15 years, says the current c mate for intimate relationships between students has always been the like this. Some students are lucky in love while others are waiting in the wings. "The same number of kids are still hanging out and making out in the hallways," he says. With current students choosing to pursue or incapable of locking romantic relationships, what is being said about today's generation? Are high schoolers less mature than we were 15 years ago? Is there a significantly higher number of pressure on students than there were in previous generations?





B. Wilkinson

Former students meet Principal Rowan and Trustee Kandavel. Yandy, a grade 12 student and an aspiring lawyer, feels that academic pressures are too high to focus on a relationship.

"From councils to coursework, where on Earth do you expect me to find time for a boyfriend? Kinglish ain't no walk in the park you know," Yandy says.

For the LGBTQ+ community at King, dating is another problem on its own. Anjalie, a grade twelve

For those looking to get in on the dating scene, the

Ashumi and Anthony met at R.H. King and have been in a relationship for three years already!

best advice might simply be to wait it out. For many teachers at King, they said they found a significant other at college or university who were more likely to share their interests. There are also plenty of opportunities to meet someone outside of the classroom thanks to all of the clubs, councils, sports, and other activities that go on at King including semi-formal on January 31st.



The students in King Improv, lead by Mr. Schillaci and Mr. Miller-Tait, always bring the funny to people every Friday at lunch in the drama studio.

For King Improv, the jokes are on them

By Lia Aziz

The Improv team is a creative, exciting club at King that performs every week, rain or shine.

Though it may all seem spontaneous, there's a lot of work that goes into making things up on the spot. The Improv team members meet up every Monday and Thursday after school in the drama studio and play various improvisation games.

Some of the most popular ones include "Actor's Nightmare" and "Lines." For "Actor's Nightmare"

one individual gets a script

and the other does not and has to respond based on what they hear.

For "Lines," individuals say random phrases that are written on pieces of paper, during their conversation and must continue the conversation with the unexpected change.

The students are learning skills such as analyzation of situations, adaption and communication. They are also strengthening their creativity and originality by quickly figuring out ideas to unexpected situations. Mr. Schillaci, one of the

Mr. Schillaci, one of the Improv coaches enjoys that approach. "What makes Improv different from other clubs at King is that it is very unpredictable and you are constantly thinking on your feet," he says.

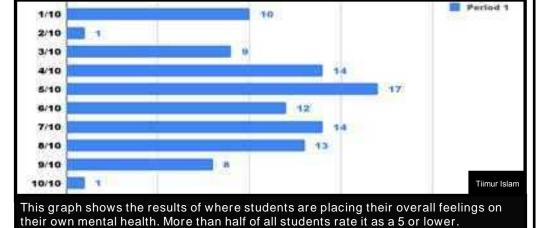
The Improv team has 16 members this year, with students from every grade. This year the team is having fun and working hard preparing for their weekly shows and an upcoming tournament.

Raza Durani, a grade 10 student likes the break being on the squad gives him. "Improv lets me show my personality and take my mind off of school," he says. The team performs a show every Friday at lunch in the drama studio. They play three games with two teams. The shows are very popular and the place is always packed.

Lavinia Auhoma, a grade 10 student, regularly goes to the shows. "It's the highlight of my day," she says.

Every year, the Improv team competes in a tournament competition called the Canadian Improv Games at the Toronto Al Green theatre. The Canadian Improv Games is a Canada wide competition with highschool students in improv teams across Canada. The teams all perform live in front of a number of judges and an audience. They are given a game, an environment and/or a conflict and must improv the scene.

Last year the improv team were very close to moving on to nationals in Ottawa. If they had beat one more team they could have won, but still had an impressive showing. The Improv Team would love to see King staff and students show their support by watching their talent on display during Fridays at lunch in the drama studio.



Grades for cash leading to potential problems

By Gogilan Selvarajah

An increasing number of grade 12 students are enrolling in private schools to take their core courses such as English and Math without thinking of the long term consequences.

Many students are willing to take a chance as they feel at King is too high for them to be successful. This is "It's stupid. They basically give you a fake identity that you're a 95+ student but you're not. You're not only cheating the system, but yourself too. You end up compromising your integrity, your character," he says.

Nazia is a grade 12 student who takes all her credits at King. "I have to work twice as hard for half the mark that my peers are aetting at

The ongoing stress of being a student

By Timur Islam

While many know their own feelings towards school, knowing how others at King also feel has largely been a mystery.

An anonymous survey conducted by the KVC asked questions such as 'How would you rate your mental health?' and the results are eye-opening.

Some of the more interesting results have concluded that out of the survey respondents, 51% of them rate their mental health as a 5/10 or worse with the rest rating it as a 6/10 or better.

While King has implemented initiatives to reduce stress such as Wellness Week and Mindful Minute, dealing with mental health effectively has always been a challenge.

Mindfulness has been a part of the Leadership program at King. Don Halliday, Head of Leadership, is working to help students . "We need to recognize as individuals that sometimes we need help with our mental health issues," he says.

Students at King say the pressures of high school coupled with the growing stress about the future has contributed to poor mental health among students.

"I'd imagine the stress from school, extracurriculars, and family definitely play a part, it's not really a surprise," says Darleen Ha, a grade 11 student.

With 86% of students aiming for university the rigours of academics have surely taken a toll on overall mental health, with many struggling to keep up.

"When you have six hours of school that leads to at least four to five hours of homework, that gives no time for sleep or spending time with family," says Aloka Wijesundara, a grade 11 student.

Staff, students, and admin at King are all doing their best to acknowledge the stress students are under, but all see that there is still work to possibly be done. amplified by pressure to get into competitive programs.

Matthew, a grade 12 student at a private school believes this to be true. "I could take AP Physics [somewhere else] and get a higher grade than I would in the easiest course at king. The teacher cut zero slack. I'm trying to get into university!"

Students who choose to take their courses at King feel they are at a disadvantage. Some private schools often spend twice as long teaching the same material, and have more lenient test-taking and test-marking practises.

Not all private schools are as reputable. Arman is a student who is strongly against certain types of private school where you basically trade cash for grades. [some of these] private schools. It's corrupt really. Kudos to universities like Waterloo that choose to discriminate against these marks. It's my future on the line, more universities should take it more seriously."

With private school's increasing popularity there needs to be firm guidance from both schools and the government on the practice.



Some students are dropping cash for grades.

FEATURES

Should we have celebrities as role models?



Yara Shahidi is an actress who has become an inspiration for many teenagers, though some wonder if celebrities should be role models.

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By Sarah Mangaru

Role models can be any person whom you wish to look up to and receive inspiration from, however a debatable question is whether or not celebrities should be one of those people.

With a celebrity always being in the public eye, it is extremely difficult for them to have their voices heard properly and correctly.

Like everyone else, they make mistakes, and with the downside of always being in the public eye, they must explain themselves after receiving criticism.

At times the media will alter information for a celebrity to seem like a terrible

person, though truly they may not be. This is why when trying to

figure information out about a person (or celebrity), always do the research first and fact-check to ensure that it is true and not false information.

All role models are up to you, and you can decide whom you'd like to look up to and more.

Always choosing to learn more about others is very important, and educating yourself about multiple issues is a way to figure out who you can relate to, whether it be a celebrity role model or not.

For example, take into consideration this quote said

by 17-year-old actress and model, Yara Shahidi. don't know everything. I know a fraction of what there is to know and I don't think I will ever

> "All role models are up to you, and you can decide whom you'd like to ook up to."

viewpoints," she says.

This quote can mean a variety of things, like for instance the negative judgements that celebrities have

to deal with, instead of being heard properly all of the time.

Although not all celebrities choose to speak out about certain issues, there are many, just like Yara Shahidi, that are perfect for learning about activism, embracing yourself, and much more.

Just like she stated, she won't know everything, but she will choose to learn about something in depth before making assumptions or choosing to speak about it.

All in all, a celebrity can be a role model. Why? Well, why not? Every person has

their own preference and views about certain topics, that even celebrities can relate to. Thanks to social media, it's easier than ever to connect to a lot of these people, many of whom are positively using their platforms to speak out about issues happening worldwide in a way that's engaging.

That said, it also opens up the chance that you'll disagree with some people as well. It is very easy to criticise someone for their life choices, but learning more about them before doing so may actually inspire people to do so much more, and may even encourage regular people to be someone's role model.

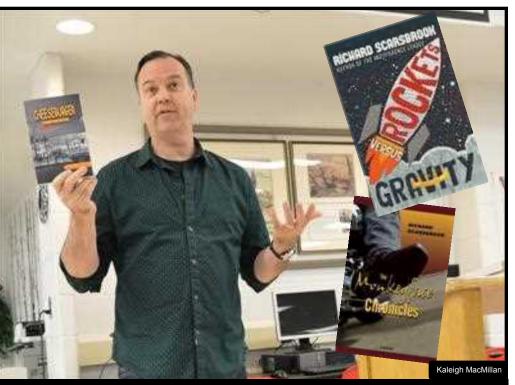
Richard Scarsbrook's author visit to King

By Kaleigh MacMillan

R.H. King recently had the honour and privilege of having award-winning author, Richard Scarsbrook, come to do an author visit in support of his many works Richard Scarsbrook is an

your story, and what emotions do you want your readers to feel?" Scarsbrook pushed his

audience to really think about their own creative process. He suggested that some questions a student might want to ask when aeveloping their stories in terms of thought could be: What is the goal of this story? Is there anything readers should be thinking about even after they have finished reading? How will this story start conversations that need to be started?



awara-winning young aauit author of ten books, all ranging in different genres and styles. His most popular book at King, thanks in part to recent support from the DA Novel Club, is The Monkeyface Chronicles, which received the White Pine Award in 2010.

For Scarsbrook, however, that was just the start. A former teacher, he has built a career not only around his own work but the process of writing itself. He currently teaches college level courses on writing as well as doing author visits to schools.

'Creative writing comes down to two things: thought and emotion," Scarsbrook says. "What do you want your readers to think about when reading this part of

Most creative writing stories are somewhat based on real life events, but exaggerated through a writer's own creative mind.

"I believe there is a spectrum of real-life events and fictional events. It depends on where you want your story to fall on that spectrum," Scarsbrook says.

In short, there is no direct "method" to creative writing, but there are strategies. When writing, consider the spectrum of real-life

Richard Scarsbrook, author of titles like The Monkeyface Chronicles, Cheeseburger Subversive, and more paid a visit to King to talk about his work, the life of a writer, and the challenges of changing your career.

versus fictional events, where the characters should fall, and where events should occur. Think about the thoughts and emotions of the characters as well as the readers, and

of course, always "go with the flow."

Scarsbrook has many other titles available in the King Library including Featherless Bipeds, The Indifference League, Rockets Vs.

Gravity, Nothing Man & The Purple Zero, Destiny's Telescope, as well as a recently released collection of poems called Apocalypse 100. You can find out more at RichardScarsbrook.com



Get your degree in internet memeology

By Nishat Chowdhury

With all the action happening on social media these days, universities are now offering special courses to tackle this aspect of daily life. Students are now called upon to analyze, in depth, certain media trends that in shape society, in a move to appeal to increasingly internet-centric youth.

This could mean spending years studying the trends in Internet memes. Recently, several universities such as Northwestern and Cambridge in the United Kingdom have recently introduced courses titled 'The introduction of internet memeology' and

'Understanding and analysis of the meme revolution' for students who are interested in studying and analyzing a wide range of popular internet images.

These courses begin with a general study of the better known memes, and then the students get the opportunity to move onto the more cryptic variants of the anomaly, such as justice and politics.

Aqsa Khan, a grade 11 student, finds it fascinating that post-secondary schools are recognizing the vast influence that internet memes are having in society, especially amongst young teens and millennials.

"It's great, as internet memes have influence on the masses—not only youth. Plus, it is a current phenomenon and it can be

great way to discover why and how they influence a large society."

It is difficult to define a meme because a meme could be anything. In shapes of videos, images, a word, symbols, an idea, a person, a fiction character or a quote, a meme only has to repeat based on a simple phrase or idea and then shaped to suit the topic being

spread from person to person via the internet. But importantly, a meme can also be defined as a cultural symbol or social idea. Instagram is possibly the largest social media plat-

form used globally. Statistics show that the increasing amount of Instagram- dedicated sharing has increased over the years in the amount of users who are only creating an account just to specifically view and not do anything else. One of the main sources being consumed? Memes, of course.

And memes on the internet are capable of influencing in masses.

When a meme is created and posted by an individual, and then reposted by several other individuals, a single meme can have the capacity to be seen by potentially millions of platforms of social media.

The speed of something reaching viral status, especially on Instagram is very common and can happen instantaneously.

Memes have also tremendously shaped popular culture, the continually evolving modern society influence and the modern language.

Therefore, providing students courses in the study of internet memeology is important as it will teach the youth today, how influential memes are to global social media users today.



Feeling better in the spaces we inhabit

By Vaidehi Trilokia

Most people don't understand how an organized space, whether it be at home, work, or even school, can have a positive effect on their daily lives.

Often students are overwhelmed with thoughts and surroundings which leads them to feel unhappy and anxious. There is a lot of stress with many assignments, friendship issues and perhaps just a bad day in general.

At times like this, being

courages people to follow a healthy diet as well.

The same goes for a school space as well. If students are in a class that is organized, clean, and focused, students tend to do better. Like most spaces, however, this is something that both students and teachers can work towards maintaining together. That also goes for larger spaces like the Caf, the Heritage Room, and the library. As long as a student has

a neat locker, they will be

able to find their items on time. This will allow them to get to class and reduce the chances of being late or missing out on marks.

There are other health benefits to organization as well. While stressed, students often choose to snack on unhealthy foods.

It has been proven that those who worked in a neat and tidy space for only 10 minutes were twice as likely to choose an apple over a chocolate bar for a snack, than those who worked in an untidy and messy space. Having a fresh space to live and work in also encourages physical activity.

Results of another study showed that those with cleanest homes were more physically active as compared to those with more of an untidy atmosphere.

On top of all of these things, organized can help you stay healthy. It can help to prevent allergies and protect your immune system. The indoor air can be more polluted than the outdoors. Pollen, pet dander and dust mites can be present in the air.

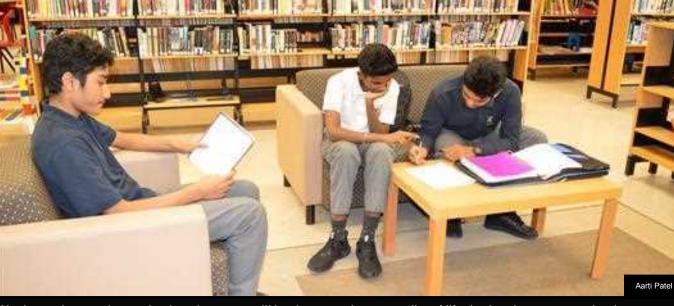
The quality of students home and school environments play a large role in their as it affects your mental stability, physical health, prevents allergies and protects your immune system.

For more information on how to feel better you can visit sites like Elitedaily.com and check out the article titled "How to make yourself happier: the effect our environment has on us."

organized is essential. It a person is at home, having a clean, neat, and refreshing home or a cloudy, disorganized and depressing home can change your mood drastically.

Neomi Theobald, a grade 9 student at King, likes having an organized spaced. "Having a clean home makes me satisfied and motivates me to complete my homework on time with efficiency," she says.

Studies show that having a space filled with clutter is not the best option if you want to feel good. In fact, it is one of the factors that cause stress and anxiety. A study published in the journal *Psychological Science* reveals that maintaining an elegant home en-



Having a clean and organized environment will lead you to a better quality of life, both at home or at school.

MOVIES & TV

Upcoming movies in 2018 By Sarah Mangaru



Insidious: The Last Key January 5

Elise Rainier, a parapsychologist, and her team travel to Five Keys, NM, to analyze a man's claim of a haunting in her family's old home.



The Commuter January 12

Michael, an insurance salesman, is making his way home until he is stopped by a mysterious stranger on a train. Caught up n a criminal conspiracy, he must save all the passengers before it's too late.



Maze Runner: The Death Cure January 26

Thomas leads some of the escaped "Gladers" on their final and most dangerous mission yet by breaking into the well-known Last City, a WCKD-controlled labyrinth that may be the most harmful maze of all, if they're going to save their friends.

Best and worst holiday movies





By Yumna Khan

Watching Christmas movies with family and friends has become a tradition for many during the holiday season.

Many of which really capture the holiday spirit while others miss the mark.

Some of the best Christmas movies were ones with high rankings in the box office, favourable reviews and a large amount of revenue.

Home Alone (1990) and it's sequel, Home Alone 2: Lost in New York have some of the highest rankings of Christmas movies of all time according to Box Office Mojo with the first one alone earning 476 million dollars worldwide and a 7.5 out of 10 rating on IMDb . Released in 1990, starring Macaulay Culkin, the film spawned a solid sequel and then a couple of duds better off forgotten. *Home Alone 3* in particular is just plain awful.

Elf, starring Will Ferrell, is another classic. Released in 2003, it earned 220 million dollars worldwide and ranks fifth in the highest earning Christmas movies in the box office. The story revolves around a human child living in the North Pole as an elf, and ventures back home in search of his father. You can find it on Netflix right now!

Four Christmases, also on Netflix, was released in 2008 and stars Reese Witherspoon and Vince Vaughn. Earning 163 million dollars gives it a 9th ranking in the box office for Christmas movies. It's about an unmarried couple are forced to cancel vacation plans to visit all four divorces parents instead during Christmas time.

Some movies however were unsuccessful and were not able to please their audience

Christmas in Wonderland released in 2007 earned less than a million dollars in its debut. The Nutcracker in 3D released in 2011 is ranked 58 out of all Christmas movies. Trapped in Paradise released back in 1994 earned 6 million dollars.

While these films are far from classics, they do prove that there is a big appetite for holiday fare. But when the film studios get it wrong they really get it wrong. Anyone remember *Grumpy Cat*? No? Perhaps that's why he's so angry all the time.

Still, the odds are good that there are many movies out there that warm the heart and are worth curling up with this season. Some great films to check out include Scrooged starring Bill Murray, National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation starring Chevy Chase, Love Actually starring just about everyone, as well as the great holiday cartoon classics like The Grinch.

Enjoy non-traditional fare? Check out Die Hard with Bruce Willis (it's considered a Christmas movie!), or Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas.

Some Christmas movies tend to be more popular than others, but they all surely spread the joy of Christmas and the holiday spirit..

Naughty vs Nice, who will win you over this Christmas?



Black Panther February 9

King T'Challa, returns back home to Wakanda, but faces his enemies who want to bring down his kingdom. He becomes the Black Panther to reclaim his rightful place as king.









Holiday classics look different now



ed the sleigh back in 1964, but it's a bit cringy now.

By Aarti Patel

For years, the holiday special, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, has been featured a staple on television during the holiday season and has been praised for being wholesome fun, but looking at the story from a fresh perspective in 2017 makes it all seem a bit more awkward. The plot of the story shows how Rudolph saved Christmas by guiding Santa's sleigh with his glowing red nose. However, this Christmas tale has heard a

lot of criticism from viewers

because Santa and his rein-

deer don't come off looking

too well.

The story begins with Rudolph, who is born with a bright-red nose that makes him different from the other reindeer. Santa Claus tells Donner, Rudolph's father, that when Rudolph grows older, it is unlikely that he will be a part of his sleigh team because of his birth-defect of a red nose.

Clearly, Santa is not a jolly person, as he discriminates Rudolph from joining his sleigh-team based on the colour of his nose. In fact, Rudolph is only an innocent baby, but he is already being limited from having opportunities in his life due to Santa's prejudice.

Growing up, Rudolph is often teased by the other reindeer because of his unique appearance. His father, Donner, tells Rudolph to cover up his nose with mud and conceal his birth defect. As a parent, Donner should not encourage his son to fit in with the other children because it restricts his child's unique identity.

At the Reindeer Games, Rudolph outshined all the other reindeer by flying the highest and fastest. All the other reindeer loved Rudolph and celebrated his victory with him, but his nose cover accidently falls off. Suddenly, all of the other reindeer reacted by bullying Rudolph and excluding him from joining their team because they did not accept his different appearance, a red nose. Nobody, including Santa, cared for Rudolph's exceptional skills and talent anymore because they judged him as a minority, the only reindeer with a coloured nose.

One stormy Christmas Eve, Santa realized that he might not be able to deliver presents on Christmas because it was very dark and snowy, and so Rudolph is called on to save the day. This story seems to have a "happy" ending, but it is interesting to notice that Santa clearly exploited Rudolph.

Television specials should reconsider bringing up certain traditional Christmas stories because some tales do not depict the most deal and warmest Christmas messages.

One would hope that by today's standards Rudolph would be accepted for who he is and his differences would be celebrated. When one thinks of Santa, that most tolerant of the imaginary beings on the world, one doesn't think of someone who would so readily toss another to the side.

By the end of the show, the message becomes clear that not only is being different okay but it can help you make your mark in the world. Younger viewers should take the challenge to accept themselves and others as well.

TV's best Christmas episodes



The Flash "Don't Run" December 5, 2017 It's that time of year again and Barry Allen, aka The Flash, cannot catch a break. When The Thinker puts him in a "prison" that holds speedsters, and Caitlin is kidnapped by Amunet, Iris has to decide who is rescued. It's a superhero version of Christmas for sure!



The Office "Christmas Party" December 6, 2005 The first Christmas episode of the show remains a classic. While Jim gets a thoughtful Secret Santa gift for Pam, Michael's iPod for Ryan catches everyone's eye in a game of Yankee Swap.

Is The Crown clashing with royalty?



bers, the Church of England and not to mention, the government.

The period between 1956-64 was of particular interest to the public in regards to the Queen's life; with tension between her and her sister due to scandalous romances, change of Prime Ministers, and her husband Prince Philip allegedly cheating on her, it's clear why the show's creators did not downplay that ic UK, saw many significant changes in the culture, lifestyle and government affairs of England. It brought the independence of many countries from the Empire, the demise of another Prime Minister and the craze of recreational drug use. These are issues the monarchy most certainly would have had to deal with at the time.

Perhaps one of the most unrelenting conspiracy the-



The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air "Deck the Halls" December 10, 1990 Will takes a stance when his using bright, festive decorations to show Ashley a real Christmas, which infuriates the dreary neighbours.

By Saptarshi Dutta

With season two of Netflix's popular drama *The Crown* out this month, it brings the question: will the show catch heat for when it inevitably has to portray sensitive events in the royal family's life, such as low points in The Queen's marriage or possible conspiracies surrounding Princess Diana's death?

The show depicts the life of Britain's royal family from shortly before Queen Elizabeth II came into reign, following her father's death in 1952. Season one ended with the Queen at odds with certain family memplotline.

Alia Rasheed, a grade nine student is a fan of the show. "Seeing the Queen and the relationship she has with Prince Philip, I don't know if he would do something like that. In the beginning I can see how they're constantly arguing, but I feel like he has a good conscience," she says.

Some feel it may be unfair for the Queen to have some of the lowlights of her life on public display. "I feel really bad for her honestly; she already has enough on her plate so this is just annoying," Rasheed says.

Furthermore, the sixties, referred to as "the decade that shook Britain" by Historories about the British monarchy is the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. The tragic death of the Queen's former daughter-in-law is one topic viewers may want to see in the show, but it will likely go untouched considering the lack of proof.

Although it hasn't been confirmed if the royals have seen the show, the question that is proposed is, how long will it air for until it is scrutinized by Her Majesty's representatives

Friends "The Holiday Armadillo" December 14, 2000 In this culturally inclusive epi-

sode, Ross introduces Ben to Jewish holiday traditions. He makes up the now infamous Holiday Armadillo, who is meant to be Santa's Jewish friend.



Ho ho ho! The holidays season is coming up really quickly, next week to be exact. In a bind? Don't have a burning idea to what give to that special someone?

Spotify Premium Membership

\$0.99

Listen to music on the go on in the shower without any of those annoying ads ruining that jam session. Sign up for a whole three months free.

MUJI Pens

\$8.95 Add a little pizzazz to notes and anything creative. Monthly Snack Subscription

Break Crate

Give the gift of food. Proudly Canadian. Choose from five snacks or ten. Pick what they want or let it be a complete surprise. The choice shall be yours, dear foodie.

> ME #GIRLLOVE WE RAFIKI

> > val Itin

Merry Christmas!

Rafiki Bracelet

\$10.00 Sport these cool coloured bracelets while helping someone in need at the same time.

BECCA: Glow on



GOOGLE Cardboard VR Glasses

\$20.00

Want to experience the wonders of Virtual Reality without the expense? Google Cardboard is the perfect cheaper alternative.



the Go Highlighter

\$24.00

Give the gift of poppin' cheeks with these highlighters. There is the Shimmering Skin Perfector Spotlight Liquid Highlighter wand and Shimmering Skin Perfector Pressed Highlighter available in only ONE COLOUR.

MUSIC ------

KPOP group's global domination

By Aarti Patel

BTS, a group of Korean singers, is successfully being recognized by fans all around the world.

This November, the band performed their latest hits "Mic Drop" and "DNA" at the 2017 American Music Awards. It was a breakthrough for the performers to have this opportunity to sing in Korean at an Ameri-

can Show for their first time. Lami Islam, a grade 10 student, is proud of BTS's latest and greatest musical achievement.

"BTS deserves a lot of love and recognition for all of their hard work. From their detailed music videos, to jaw dropping dance moves, us fans are so proud of them," Lami says. From Japan, to the Unit-

ed Kingdom and Canada,

many international fans enjoy supporting the band with their singing, rapping and spectacular dance performances.

On social media, BTS is greatly supported by their fandom known as A.R.M.Y. With over two million followers on Twitter and over ten million followers on Instagram, BTS shares their musical journey with their followers online.

Ellen Wang, grade eleven student, likes to watch YouTube videos of BTS and stream in with their V live channel.

"They connect with fans all over the world by posting vlogs and other fun videos that show their personality. Their amazing group chemistry, meaningful and catchy songs make others want to join A.R.M.Y," Wang says.

One English speaking member in the band, Rap Monster, helps translate the group's opinions for their international fans. Fans admire their silly and humble personalities.

Many people might be concerned with language barriers while listening to Korean music. However, around their world fans overcome this hurdle by finding and reading translated versions of song lyrics.

Lami explains that music is universal, many people admire the rhythm, beat, and emotions of their songs.

"In music, we all speak one language which is pain, love, and joy, as shown in many songs by BTS," Lami says.

New music you should probably be listening to



December 2017 U2 Songs of Experience





BTS (Beyond the Scene) have been waking waves in the Kpop world.

The evolution of mumble rap



Mumble rap has become a controversial form of artistic expression in music.





Early 2018 Maluma F.A.M.E.



Rappers such as Snoop

rhythm and that in order for

Rap music has always been famed for its lyricism and how it often highlights important social issues that rappers want to bring to the audience's attention.

Rappers with solid reputations like Eminem, Kendrick Lamar, and J. Cole all found their fame with their punchy lyrics that had a deep and relevant commentaries upon social issues to their respective audiences.

However the rise of 'Mumble Rap' where rappers such as Desiigner, Lil' Pump, Quavo, among others have enjoyed a wave of popularity on a style of rap that focuses less on lyricism and more on the rhythm and beat of the song. Even if that involves making adpose of keeping a consistent flow.

These types of rappers have been dubbed as 'Mumble Rappers' due to their emphasis on a beat rather than lyrics that are perceived as unclear and mumble like. Mumble rappers have been mocked for using ad libs in most of their songs while the

lyrics are incoherent. Magnolia by Playboi Carti use adlibs such as wooshing noises, and meows in order to supplement Magnolia's lyrics that merge into each other leaving listeners confused about the message of the song.

Dogg have mocked

'mumble' rappers as having a 'soundalike' flow and that all these upcoming rappers have the same jittery sound to them.

Roland Rozario, a

music student at "Mumble rap is an abomination of hip hop."

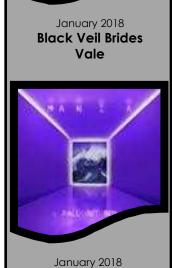
King says "mumble rappers have grown because people nowadays care more about the beat than the actual lyrics, the flow is necessary but there's more to rap than just a beat. Musically speaking, mumble rap is an abomination to hip hop. Mumble rap has seen famous rappers such as Snoop Dogg say that that all

mumble rappers sound the same and follow the same

these rappers stay relevant in the future they'll need to change how they make music. While many in the Hip Hop community have called mumble rap not real rap, others say it's a natural progression of music and should be embraced.

In an article for Vibe Magazine, Jasmine Alyse, a music and culture expert countered anti-mumble rap sentiments, writing that the progression of music was natural. She argues that that the label of mumble rap is an arbitrary attempt by hip hop purists and veterans to shut out new artists in the community.

Whether or not mumble rap is good remains debatable, but these artists are leaving their marks.



Fall Out Boy Mania

TECHNOLOGY ------

Great apps for students to use

By Adib Chowdhury



Wunderlist

A great way to organize your to-do lists. It is a cloud-based management app that lets you organize yourself from a phone, tablet, computer, or even a smartwatch. **4.6/5**



Speechnotes

Convert your text to speech instead of taking notes, or does the reverse if you'd prefer. It's supereasy and now is even Bluetooh supported for those who want it. **4.3/5**



Brainscape

Create innovative and clean flashcards for study-

Aviation club takes to the skies



Aviation club members use flight gear to experience the exhilaration of commanding a plane while still in class.

By Adib Chowdhury

The newly acquired flight simulation hardware by the Aviation Club at R.H. King has revolutionized the way students get to experience commanding their own plane.

The rapid advancement of virtual and augmented reality in the gaming industry is due largely in part to simulations in job training settings. Simulation software and hardware has been used to train pilots, police officers, surgeons, and has recently broken into the gaming industry through peripherals such as the Oculus Rift.

The co-president of the aviation club believes that the flight simulation gear is a technical marvel in the education field. "Showing students how the plane reacts to inputs is more effective than describing the effects of inputs," says George Trieu, the co-president of the aviation club says.

Many students find that learning through application and experimenta-

tion is more effective than using textbooks, and the flight simulation gear provides accurate and realistic experience with learning to fly planes, while instantaneously providing students with a sense of accomplishment and en-

joyment. Although flight simulation gear can be significantly more expensive than a set of books, it provides the exhilarating experience of flying planes without the danger or costs of real planes, and is usually more fun for students than reading from books.

Trieu believes that the skills acquired through the flight simulators have

immense bene-

fits to students

in other fields.

"It can im-

prove the

student's

arithmetic

"Showing students is more effective than describing it."

skills by performing math quickly; immerse students in the physics behind aerodynamics, and much more!"

The transferrable skills from the flight simulators can provide and strengthen students' skills in other regions, such as math, science, and practical skills, such as communication, critical thinking, and problem solving.

Many institutions are shifting their teaching strategies to application and experience rather than theory, and the positive reactions and popularity of the flight gear in the aviation club support the benefits of learning through experience, and this knowledge can be transferred to many other fields and forms of study.

If you would like to learn more about the club or the software, please speak to Mr. Miller-Tait, who brought the club and the gear for everyone to use, or else head to Library Lab B32 on Tuesdays at lunch to try it all out.



Engineering students program their robots.

Bitcoin: currency 2.0

By Adib Chowdhury

The rapid surge in the value of Bitcoin in recent months has captivated the attention of tech enthusiasts and investors alike.

On January 1st, 2017, he value of Bitcoin was Bitcoin makes it impractical to use as a primary

form of currency. Valve, a multi-billion dollar corporation recently announced that they would no longer accept Bitcoin as payment through Steam due to high fees and some

ing. The goal is to make studying as effective as possible, especially for King students who are already bogged down! **4.5/5**



Alarmy

The alarm won't turn off until you take a photo somewhere else. **4.7/5**

The future of IT jobs

By Adib Chowdhury

With the unstable job market in Canada, and the uncertainty of the future, many students entering university or the workforce view a career in the IT field as one of the only safe job markets to pursue.

The job market and the money does not phase one particularly talented computer engineering student. "If you're passionate,

then you'll be successful. I don't care about the money; I pursue tech because I love the science," Jimmy Zhang says.

A poll taken by 83 students at King show that 57.8% of students would contemplate a career in IT.

King offers a number of courses in the related fields, but like any job market, there is a high demand for skills so students are encouraged to study hard and put their learning to good use. If students want to learn more about IT jobs, talk to Student Services or any teacher in the Computer department. \$997.69 USD, and by November 30th of the same year, the value of this cryptocurrency rose by nearly 894%.

Bitcoin was originally released in 2008 as the first decentralized digital currency, without any association with banks, unlike traditional currency. Many consumers used Bitcoins to make purchases anonymously. However, the volatility of volatility.

Declan Collins-Warren, a grade 11 student at King occasionally trades cryptocurrency.

"Bitcoin is too expensive to be used as a currency," Collins-Warren says.

Despite the volatility and impracticalities, Bitcoin continues to rise in popularity among investors, as the value continues to rise.





has Rift and virtual reality ar

The Oculus Rift at R.H. King is a technical marvel that is now available to students and can be applied to applications including games, training, and education fields.

By Colin Lee

R.H. King is pushing itself to be at the leading edge of technology.

This year, King acquired the Oculus Rift, a virtual reality system that allows you to run applications from a headset that you attach to your face. In little time, interest in virtual reality grew substantially, and King's very own VR Club was formed. Teachers and students alike have tried VR, and

nearly all have been amazed by the technology that exists right here at King. A few went home dizzy, but amazed by what they saw.

"It was eye-opening," says Connor McGee, a grade nine student at King. Students can test out the virtual reality gear in front of the library during special events or stop into the Makerspace at lunch to try it out.

Many students have taken turns playing different games for a few minutes, often wanting even more time to explore the intricacies of all the virtual reality games the Rift has to offer. Many at King have been fascinated by the Oculus Rift, including the club president.

Sarah Mangaru

"My favorite game is The Climb, a rock climbing game, and it would be very useful for geography classes. It's an awesome experience and I think everyone should try it," says Richard Ye.

Unlike typical gamepad based video games, virtual reality allows you to move around, and have the full experience of living and experiencing an altern reality.

Many teachers belie that the virtual reality s is great for students be it allows them to experi the many lessons they learn.

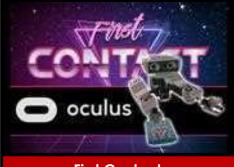
Mr. Raptou, a technology teacher at R.H. King appreciates how VR technology is beneficial for students, but also understands the underlying issues that may arise.

"The educational side would be good for my programming class, but the video games might be adanywhere in the world for Geography class, inside a cell for Biology or on the battlefield for History. The Oculus Rift is available for students to use every Thursday in front of the library to experience the immersion of virtual reality, or you can buy your own for about \$549.

Popular Oculus Rift Apps available in the library



The Climb



First Contact



Ione Echo

This first-person experience lets you climb mountains, traverse icy slopes, and push your fear of heights to the limit.



Batman VR

Who doesn't want to be Batman? Step into the Dark Knight's suit of armour and ride down into the batcave.

An introduction to the world of Oculus, this handy little robot gets users to pick up and interact with objects around them.



Robo Recall

Destroy robots! Rip them apart! Send them back to their maker! This is a fast-paced firstperson shooter.

A breakout hit for the Oculus, Lone Echo puts you in the body of a robot on a remote space station that you must explore.



Tilt Brush

An artist's dream, Tilt Brush allows you to build and design in a three-dimensional space for outstanding results.

VIDEO GAMES

Some of the best games of 2017



HORIZON ZERO DAWN

A critically acclaimed game for the PS4, focusing on an outcast character's journey. Jampacked with intrigue and mystery, Horizon's story was a winner.



PERSONA 5

An enjoyable and fastpaced JRPG, From it's stellar soundtrack to vibrant visuals, Persona 5 is a game with charm that is sure to consume your entire life.



NIER: AUTOMATA

Set in the midst of a proxy war of alien machines, this action adventure agme is much more then you're mindless clicker aame. Thouaht-provokina

Interactive fiction is making a mark



Text-based games, like *Lifeline* by Big Fish, have been gaining traction with gamers. The idea is that you watch as a story evolves and help make decisions for the characters. Many interactions take place over the course of a day.

"You can

choose what

you like, you

can choose

By Thureka Gopalasingam

Over the last few years, interactive fiction, also known as text-based games have grown popular.

There have been many recent editions to the genre through places like Apple's App store. Some popular titles include Lifeline by Big Fish. The aame relies on user patience as an explorer texts with you and asks for your advice to get out of a situation. Often, the person on the other end of the line can disappear for hours at a time while they work through the issue. It makes for a rather realistic experience.

" I find myself absorbed in my phone on this morning's commute to work. Taylor is

messaging me on Lifeline. He's wondering whether or not he should spend the night sleeping next to the warmth of a potentially radioactive generator, or tough

it out in the middle of a hostile, frigid dessert," wrote Skullfan in an online review. This online

interaction is making waves and given its rising popularity,

one might think that this was a totally

new genre, but it turns out text-based games have been around for years. Its resurgence is nostalgic for adults who grew up with

similar aames. One of the earliest includes Zork I: The Great Underground Empire by Marc Blank from 1980.

"Sometimes you won't like what's happening, but choosing your own adventure, or you can choose what you like, it's more fun for you," says Arnob Datta, a what you want" arade 11 student.

It's popularity has been growing in part thanks to YouTubers

such as Pewdiepie, Markiplier, and Jacksepticeye who have large followings and are posting videos about the games. An example is Emily

is Away, where one explores their relationship with a fellow high school student, Emily in a linear storyline where they get to chose the outcome.

"[It's] the way they enjoy the game, makes people want to try it," says Plaban Sarkar, a grade 11 student. According to Google

Trends, there had been a jump of people searching for the game around the end of May 2017 around the same time, big names such as Pewdiepie, Markiplier, Jacksepticeye, posted videos of themselves playing the game's sequel.

Some other classic game interactive fiction titles include The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy and Lost Pig.

Call of Duty: World War II reboots the franchise

By Quinn Keenan

Call of Duty: WWII was released this past November and the series has been a welcome return in the eyes of gamers after a chain of repetitive seauels that took the series further and further away from its roots.

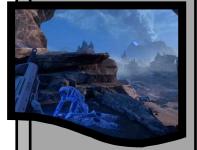
Call of Duty games have long had complaints about the series being essentially the same game with minor changes each time a new aame is released. Despite this, the games have always been quite popular. Each year the new entry in the Call of Duty series sets new landmarks in terms of sales. The multiplayer community chomps at the bit to get the chance to level up, but some worried that the series was stravina too far into the future. The last release, Infinite Warfare, was particularly criticized from fans wondering where the series was going and what had happened to its previous depictions of real war. Activision and the developers heard the cry and responded accordingly.

Sledgehammer Games was tasked with creating the latest entry in the series and did just that with the latest edition to the Call of Duty series, subtitled World War II. The game takes place in the past yet again instead of the future, rebooting Call of Duty: World at War which came out back in 2008.

"I like that they brought the World War scene back,"



and enigmatic, this game sure to leave an impact.



FARPOINT

Farpoint is a VR firstperson shooter that challenges the limitations of your standard FPS games. said Maverick Garcha, a arade 10 student at Kina who has played the game and many others in the series. "The graphics are a beauty; I like the mechanics because they are much smoother," he says.

The game's engine and mechanics have definitely changed from COD: World at War, which had simple araphics, mechanics and objectives.

"The whole style of the game changes, from thetypes of guns you use to the maps you play on," Garcha says.

For more information on the game and to read up on the future of the hit gaming series at large, please visit CallofDuty.com.

Call of Duty: WWII was released to widespread acclaim and gamer support in November of 2017.





Rise of micro-transactions in games

By Adib Chowdhury

In recent years, the mainstream gaming industry has seen a massive shift in their business models and revenue earning tactics, but many gamers are crying foul as a result.

Renowned publishers including Rockstar Games, EA, and Ubisoft now heavily rely on the sales of microtransactions and DLC, on top of the initial purchase of many of their \$80 games for Xbox, PS4, and PC.

Micro-transactions as a business model have been common place in free to play games, especially mobile games such as *Candy* Crush. Candy Crush is what's known as a "freemium app," making it available to download for free, including in-app purchases. This model has been widely successful for King, the Candy Crush developers. Candy Crush developers. Candy Crush Saga has an estimated \$2.1 million of estimated revenue per day, just through in app purchases alone, so it's no surprise others want a piece of the action.

The freemium business model has transferred into AAA games such as Grand Theft Auto V, and Middle Earth: Shadow of War. On top of charging customers with the initial price of the game, they are often pressured into paying for ingame items such as currency, character unlocks, and skins. This model has been very lucrative for publishers, even with major backlash from consumers. Rockstar games has sold over 60 million copies of GTA V, and brought in over \$500 million from the online component of their game after release through micro-transactions.

"I've spent a good amount of money on League of Legends, but that's a free to play game. Seeing \$80 games like Star Wars and GTA force people to pay more money is ridiculous, and an obvious money grab," Tahseen Anayet, a grade 11 student says.

The latest microtransaction scandal in the gaming industry was the release of Star Wars Battlefront 2.

"Seriously? I paid eight dollars to have Vader locked?" a SWBF subreddit user posts.

EA's response to this statement stated that unlocking characters such as Darth Vader provides players with a sense of pride and accomplishment. They faced major backlash for this statement, soon becoming the most downvoted comment on Reddit with 677 000 downvotes.

Although EA reduced the amount of credits required to unlock some characters, they also increased the amount of time required to unlock them. Many loyal *Star Wars* fans felt slapped in the face.

Some pro-consumers took the liberty of calculating how much time or money it would take to unlock all characters. Star Wars Gaming estimates that it would take over 4000 hours, or \$2100 to unlock everything.

"Coming out with true additional content for a game is a fair way to earn revenue. Locking away preexisting content, and locking content behind unreasonable amount of play time is unfair to consumers at the core," an anonymous avid gamer says.

When consumers continue to feed money to publishers, other companies will join in, creating a slippery slope. The only way to stop the practice is to not pay to play.

Holiday game deals

Between the rush of Black Friday and the approach of both Christmas and Black Friday, there are many game deals to be had on both new and classic games and systems.

SUPER NES CLASSIC



Following on the heels of the NES Classic last year, this mini system holds 21 classic games including F-Zero, Street Fighter II, and Super Mario World. \$99.99.

SUPER MARIO ODYSSEY



With amazing advance reviews, this new adventure of Mario, complete with a special cap, has been flying off shelves. \$79 for Nintendo Switch.

BIOSHOCK: COLLECTION



Get three amazing games in one package: Bioshock, Bioshock 2, and Bioshock Infinite. These games belong in any gamers collection!



Atari's new console debuts

By Quinn Keenan

Atari is trying to make a comeback this spring with

"It looks really nice." Though the console may look sleek to some, with a sleek black design (one version has wood-grain siding, pictured above) with a red back, it's the brand itself that matters to some.

Nintendo Switch-ing it up

By Jasleen Toor

Since the Nintendo Switch released last March many have been watching to see if the console would reach the heights of the Wii or the lows of the Wii U.

Based on early numbers from holiday sales, partly bolstered by titles like Legend of 7elda: Breath of the Wild and Super Mario Odyssey, it seems that Nintendo has another hit on its hands. The Switch is a hybrid handheld and console gaming device that can be taken anywhere by players at anytime. Similar to the Wii or DS, the Nintendo Switch allows players to play solo, in teams or in battles against others. Prachi Thaker is a grade nine student who enjoys th system. "It's travel friendly, fun, and great to play with friends," Thaker says. The controllers of the switch are pretty cool. The come with a social share button that allows one to take screenshots of what they are playing. They also come in different colour pairs such as grey controllers or blue and red neon.

Although the Nintendo Switch has gone through success, it also faces many hurdles throughout the months of its release.

Ishman Dewan, a grade 11 student, likes the Switch but would improve a few things.

"I would prefer if the kickstand on the back didn't come off as easily, and sat at a sharper angle so I can use it on a desk, but that can be fixed by resting it on something," Dewan says. Students who are interested in purchasing the new Nintendo Switch can try to find it at many stores like Amazon or Best Buy for

2018, but they may be way too late to the game.

Atari is releasing the modernized console, outfitted with modern ports like HDMI, four USB ports, and able to play classic Atari games and probably new titles, but it is still a question as to whether people will want to buy from a brand that has been out of the game for 20 years.

"That sounds really cool. I might get one," says Vaksan Kugenthiraja, a grade 10 student at King.

Other students agreed with Kugenthiraja, commenting on the aesthetics of the console.

"I would buy [the Ataribox]," says Ayush Gurung, a grade 10 student at R.H. King Academy who is a gamer. "Brand is important to me," Gurung says. "If I wanted to buy something nice but the brand was bad, I [probably wouldn't]."

"It depends on the advertising and how it's promoted," Kugenthiraja says. "I think that people might give it a chance though. Brand isn't always attractive, it's what's offered."

Atari owns the rights to more than 200 games including Pong, Asteroids, Centipede, the Rollercoaster Tycoon series, and much more. Whether they'll make new content has yet to be revealed, but expect more news soon.



Super Mario Odyssey.

\$29 for PS4, Xbox One.

CALL OF DUTY: WWII



Bringing the franchise back to its roots was a welcome move from many fans. The game still has a great story, solid multiplayer, and a global fanbase that ensures plenty of fun. \$79 for Xbox One, PS4, PC.

Presentation Day











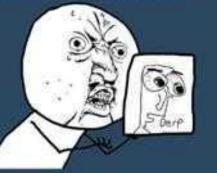


Next Comic: Meanwhile at Tim Hortons...

School Night



SCHOOL PICTURES



Y U NO LOOK GOOD



King Things - Word Search

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