

The Uniform Issue

# KINGSLEY VOICE

WINTER 2019



THE MINDFUL MINUTE • DIVERSITY IN MOVIES • UNIFORM: PRO/CON •  
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WINTER 2019

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## OP/ED: OSAP cuts more than money?

### MASTHEAD



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FRIDAYS @ LUNCH  
IN B42

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By Aarti Patel

As high school students, many of us hope to eventually enter post-secondary education and work towards our dream careers. With the Progressive Conservative government's planned OSAP and tuition changes, is our education system truly progressing to support all students?

Last month, changes to OSAP were announced such as the elimination of free tuition for students in households earning less than \$50,000 per year. In addition, tuition grants are to be eliminated. Due to an audit of the program, the provincial government stated the costs were unsustainable for the next year's provincial budget.

Perhaps OSAP was expensive for the government at first but it is upsetting that these changes to tuition loans and grants were made without any prior warnings for students. Being one of the many students who qualified for free tuition under the previous system, I spent my high school career meticulously studying with the relief that the government would support me with tuition grants. At last, in grade twelve, it is very disappointing that my peers and I no longer have this

financial support for education. Instead, some of us may only qualify for tuition loans next year. For many young people, this might bury us in debt before we have even become financially independent. We were not prepared for this. At all.

Ford's government also removed the six month interest-free grace period which makes it difficult for students to repay loans without the looming responsibility of repaying interest immediately after graduation. For some students currently in college or university, this may pose financial challenges that discourage them from continuing their studies. Student loans may seem like a future problem, but we must think critically about our path beyond high school as time flies by quickly.

I firmly believe that Ford's proposed changes to OSAP are unjust, as it may create greater social class division in Ontario, where only those from financially-stable backgrounds will be able to afford college or university. The reduction of tuition by 10% across the board seems like the Ford government's way of putting a bandage on a bullet wound that they themselves introduced. Instead of supporting those who need it most, tuition is now cheaper for

"The reduction of tuition by 10% across the board seems like the Ford government's way of putting a bandage on a bullet wound that they themselves introduced."



Activists gathered and rallied at Queen's Park to protest against Premier Doug Ford's new changes to OSAP and tuition on Friday, January 25th.

students of higher incomes, while lower-income students will continue to struggle with large student loans and interest rates.

Post-secondary education is not a luxury: everyone should have an equal opportunity to move onto higher levels of education despite social class. Many professional jobs require degrees and certifications. The implications of OSAP should be seen as a long-term investment to strengthen the workforce of Ontario.

Across Ontario, many students have already signed petitions and protest-

ed against Ford's planned changes to OSAP and tuition, which has raised awareness in the media. As high school students, the issue of affording post-secondary school may soon fall upon our shoulders, but it should not weigh us down from achieving our educational goals. We must think critically and take action on issues of public concern. In the end, this is not an argument for money, but rather, it is taking a stance to create an education system that is much more accessible for all students and ensuring a better future.

### Kingsley Voice Reloaded

By Kingsley Voice Team

Welcome to the second year of the *Kingsley Voice* with brand new team members doing our best to tackle the issues that matter the most to our readers at King.

Our section editors have been working hard on ensuring that as many King voices are heard as possible. At R.H. King, we can agree that the uniform is an integral, but also, contentious part of R.H. King's culture. To recognize this debate, this issue of the *Kingsley Voice* is dedicated to the arguments and fresh ideas surrounding the uniform. As well, we hope to bring to light some of the deeper issues that King students face and deal with on a daily basis.

While we focused much of our efforts on representing issues related to King students, we did not forget to include articles about our community. From exploring the theme of living in Scarborough to tackling the multitude of stereotypes that Scarborough has taken on through its portrayal in the media and cool things happening in Toronto pop culture, our paper has it cov-

ered. We've also delved deeper into not only the stereotypes that we face in the local community but also how the world is fighting back through things like Nick Jonas and Priyanka Chopra's multicultural wedding.

In your hand is the culmination (for now) of the hard work of our incredible council. They have put in many hours to ensure the paper is the best it could possibly be. We are very excited to showcase their work, some of whom have never written an article or created a layout before! We are very proud to see them improve as writers, layout editors and art directors. We want to recognize them for their dedication and strong efforts to the council.

From everyone here at the *Kingsley Voice*, we hope you enjoy reading our newspaper as much as we've enjoyed creating it!

Sincerely,

Aarti & Timur



Co-Editors in Chiefs, Aarti Patel and Timur Islam, try to make sense of it all!



Presenting the Kingsley Voice team is all of their published glory!

# SPOTLIGHT

Background art by Oishee Syed, Grade 12



Umaima Mehbuba, Grade 11



Tasnim Hakim, Grade 11



Siena Kunanec, Grade 12

## Since Ten

I come from a place where at the age of ten I am cat-called by my own cousin.  
Where despite living in my own home,  
I can never open the curtains because the workers from the construction site nearby seize every opportunity to get a better look.

My childhood memories include hungry eyes shamelessly feasting upon every inch  
of my body because they believe they have the right.  
I am told I am not strong enough to put up a fight.

I remember hiding behind thick fabric to feel a sense of comfort  
that never seems to be enough.  
Mom taught you better, didn't she?  
Don't hide. Don't run. Don't talk. Look down.  
"Take a goddamn compliment."

Time passes.

It seems normal to face the wolves with teeth sinking deep into my already bleeding flesh  
ripping it apart one piece at a time.

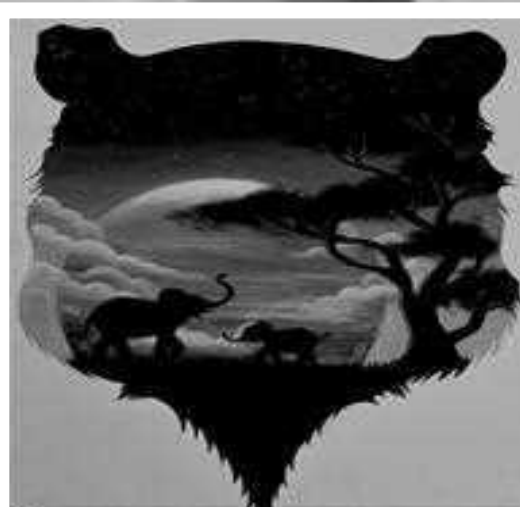
An epiphany so cold and crisp sends shivers down my spine:  
A red flag reminder that I am validation for your glorified masculinity.

With every passing minute, I feel the treatment of being less:  
the lack of dignity and respect, equality and protest;  
I just stare at the mirror, the cold black empty hollows staring at me,  
offering a sigh in form of a smile,  
since I was ten.

Fatin Noor



Abrar Quazi, Grade 12



Lashvi Piyasena Grade 12



Shampave Thillepan, Grade 12

# FEATURES

## The Indigenous Curriculum of Ontario



On September 21, students at King, as well as people across Ontario walked out in protest of reverting to an outdated sex-ed curriculum as well as damage done to Indigenous Rights curriculum.

By Lily Santon

Earlier this school year, several high school students across Ontario walked out in protest of the changes made regarding the sexual education curriculum, but that wasn't the only issue at stake as the Indigenous curriculum was also at risk.

When Doug Ford was elected Premier on June 29, 2018, not only did he slash the sex ed curriculum in elementary schools, he and Minister of Education Lisa Thompson also cancelled the rewrites of the social

studies curriculums for grades 1-6, history and geography for grades 7-8 and the Canadian and World Studies curriculums for grades 9-10. These contained subjects that former Premier Kathleen Wynne had planned would tackle three indigenous topics - the Truth and Reconciliation Commission curriculum, American Sign Language and Indigenous Languages.

Those who practice in one or more of the various Aboriginal cultures are quite often under or misrepresented in curriculum that poten-

tially would leaving out portions on residential schools, unjust law cases, partial treaties and other events that many people, even members of our own community, are still dealing with.

The current provincial government under Doug Ford has cut funding for programs that aim to include the history of Indigenous peoples and the influence of residential schools and integrate them into courses that teach Canadian social studies and history.

By eliminating these programs for the elementary

and secondary grades, many see this move as a way of avoiding the realities of history and the impacts from those actions that continue today.

"I believe that it is important for us as a country to acknowledge our past because it has been buried in history for far too long... I think that we have much to make up for as a country," suggests Brenna McDonald, grade nine student at King.

Taina Kanerva is the head of Geography and Family Studies at King and believes the decisions being made

will only set schools back in time and do much more harm than good.

"The curriculum being denied to students will only do harm," Kanerva says. "These decisions were done spur of the moment without any true thought to impact and costs. Ontario is tied to the federal obligations of Truth and Reconciliation and this curriculum is a requirement of that. Not only are students losing the ability to learn the truth about Canada's history and make up, the province is willfully denying their obligations."

## What it means to be from Scarborough

By Nishat Chowdhury

Scarborough Town Centre, The Scarborough Bluffs, Toronto Zoo, Scarborough Junction, Kennedy Station, Scarborough Civic Centre, Thompson Park and R.H. King Academy have one thing in common: they are a part of Scarborough's unique culture.

Noshin Chowdhury, a grade ten student at King, is proud to be a resident of Scarborough. Some of her favourite celebrities grew up in this suburb, which inspires her to work towards her own personal goals.

"Scarborough natives like The Weeknd and Lily Singh are shining examples of the talent Scarborough has," Chowdhury says.

While Scarborough is a hub for multiculturalism and community togetherness, it has gained a negative reputation over the years. Instagram page, 6ixbuzz, has generalized Scarborough to be "ghetto" and Scarberians to be "ratchet." Vyshnavi Kanagarajamuthaly, a grade twelve student, believes that this stigma may hinder the people living in Scarborough as they try to move forward, as it gives them a poor reputation.

"When I went to B.C. last summer for SHAD and I told people I was from Scarborough, there was always a 6ixbuzz reference or something negative had to be said," says Kanagarajamuthaly.



Multiculturalism, one of many reasons to take pride in being from The 6ix.

6ixbuzz is an Instagram entertainment and meme account dedicated to Toronto culture. It has a large following, mostly teenagers who are from Toronto or live in the GTA. The account has become notorious for posting videos of people engaging in so called "mod" activities while yelling 6ixbuzz!

Despite all the negative buzz, Scarborough is home to a diverse community with people of all races, religions, and ethnicities coinciding and working hard. Throughout the community, a multitude of languages are spoken by residents.

To many, Scarborough feels like a big community because of the involvement and presence of community members of all ages and ethnicities during events and in everyday life. Emily Everest, grade 12 student at King, appreciates the diversi-

ty Scarborough has to offer. "Living in Scarborough has made me more well rounded," Everest says.

Even students at R.H. King are showing their talent Arts on the Road, Multinight and more, which have showcased the diversity of talent found among students in Scarborough. Scarborough also has my community centres that offer free drop-in programs for students, which fosters a sense of community. Chowdhury believes that Scarborough does not deserve the poor reputation it has and is a great place to live. "It doesn't matter wherever you go later in life or whatever you choose to do, there will always be a piece of Scarborough with you," Chowdhury says.

In the end, Scarborough is a great example of the cultural mosaic of Toronto.

## Mental health awareness

By Berlin Ogglesby

While King takes a Mindful Minute to de-stress the minds of staff and students alike, kids are more aware than ever of the more serious types of disorders and how to get help or better cope.

From anxiety to depression and bipolar disorder, there are mental health issues that affect millions and now more people know about it. Mental health is extremely important to youth. Many of today's youth in Canada are affected by these issues.

As a result of students knowing the important role mental health plays in society, they will be better equipped to identify whether or not they have such problems and know to reach for help. With schools and the media talking about the challenges people face, those issues become more common and easier for people to talk about and share their experiences.

At King, many students find that school can be very stressful. From homework to exams to their own social lives, it seems as if it never

ends. It is crucial for young minds to have a safe outlet to express their feelings and troubles, especially at a time where they are going through immense changes.

Jason Podur, head of Student Services at King, believes that getting help as soon as you think there's a problem is important. "It can help avoid more serious problems down the road including negative impacts on school, friendships and more deeply seated mental health issues," Podur says.

There are supports like Kids Help Phone and anonymous answer pages along with the opportunity to speak to trusted adults and peers like the counsellors in Student Services at King.

With less stigma around the topic of mental health, kids in school are taught about how to deal with stress and anxiety. Media platforms are helping by promoting campaigns like #Bell LetsTalk.

These are big steps being taken to increase awareness and lower stigma, which is one step closer to healthy minds all around.



Even a minute of mindfulness a day can benefit students and adults.



# Climate change: it's real and happening



Kaleigh Macmillan

The biodegradation of ONE plastic bag requires a minimum of 500 years. Is it worth hurting the planet for the average twelve minutes that they are estimated to be used for?

By Lily Santon

Pollution and a total disregard for the environment from generations past have resulted in irreversible, negative effects on the planet.

"I think we're actually doomed because we've come way too far in destroying our planet. If a lot of us don't change our lifestyles we will face major consequences in our lifetime, and so will future generations," says Anushka Kaiser, a grade 10 student at King.

According to a study conducted at Yale University

in 2013, 97% of climate scientists have accepted that climate change is a very serious issue, yet 59% of the general public still refuse to admit that this is happening. There are several tell-tale signs that prove this theory all around the world: heat waves in the Sahara, recurring droughts in California, changing weather patterns causing more hurricanes globally, and thawing permafrost is causing severe damage in the Northwest Territories in Canada.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration

concludes that the current climate change trend is more than 95% the result of human activity. Raising livestock is amongst one of



those activities. Cows, for instance, produce large amounts of methane, a

greenhouse gas contributing to climate change, yet beef is still consumed in excess. People may not realize that their diet might actually be harming the environment. How one's food is grown, transported, and how it's prepared contributes to an ecological footprint.

"Raising animals takes a lot of land and resources, which is why I try to eat more vegetarian protein, like chickpeas," says grade 10 student Raysa Khandaker.

It is true that this may all seem quite daunting, however, it is not yet hopeless.

Several students at R.H. King are voicing how they make environmentally conscious choices on a day to day basis, which includes attempting to take shorter showers, walking to school instead of getting driven, and a surprising yet effective practice which involves unplugging appliance cables, which can actually conserve electricity if enough people do it.

These actions may seem small at first glance, but if everyone begins to take up healthy habits these can make a huge difference.

## King's fundraises \$6000 for charity



Aarti Patel

A \$1500 cheque was donated to the Covenant House Toronto, which is Canada's largest youth shelter.

By Aarti Patel

On Wednesday, February 27, R.H. King celebrated their accomplishment of fundraising a total of \$6000 throughout the 2017-2018 school year by having a charity donation assembly. Organizations such as the Cancer Society, Sick Kids Foundation, Covenant House and Heart and Stroke Foundation all received \$1500 cheques on stage.

Don Halliday, head of Leadership at King and organizer of the event, explains that for years, clubs and councils have raised money through various initiatives such as bake sales and dress down days. However, very

few students were aware about where the money actually goes.

This led to teachers and a group of students from the King Principal Council (KPC) organizing a special assembly to acknowledge the hard work of students and staff in annually supporting local and national charities.

"Not every high school raises a couple thousand dollars for charities every year, but we do, and it's something special. It should be something we are proud of as we are making a difference in our community and it's a part of our motto. This is how we care for our community and we should acknowledge it and cele-

brate it through having these assemblies," Halliday says.

On stage, representatives spoke about the focus of their charities and the impact each donation has in improving the lives of people, which was very informative for the audience.

Nancy Drynan, a leadership volunteer for the Cancer Society, shared alarming statistics to raise awareness about cancer. Nearly a quarter of people will die from cancer in their lifetime, which emphasized the importance to support cancer research and cancer prevention plans in the community. Drynan encouraged King students to continue to participate in extracurricular activities at school and also to keep volunteering.

"It gives you leadership abilities and shows that you care about a cause such as leading the fight against cancer," Drynan says.

With year round events led by clubs and councils, mentor matters, and other activities, King students should celebrate their achievements throughout the year and always look for opportunities to continue to give back to the community. Students may never know what kind of difference it might be able to make with that extra dollar or two.

## Lowering the voting age

By Saptarshi Dutta

Students in Canada hear about voting in government and how they can bring about change when they turn 18, but until they actually become an adult, youth have no true power when it comes to political change that will inevitably affect them, either now or in the future. Lowering the voting age to 16 can empower youth by making them a part of their country's decision making process.

Often adults complain about issues surrounding their government and how they are powerless to make a difference. These are also people who may end up not even voting, thus giving up their democratic right to do the very thing they thought wasn't possible: push forward change. However, if high school age citizens are given the opportunity to exercise

their right to vote from a young age, this could promote a lifelong interest in the election process.

"We know that Canadians who vote early in their lifetime will continue to vote, and those who don't vote in the first few elections will tend not to vote later on," says acting chief electoral officer Stéphane Perrault, to CBC News. "So there's a real benefit to making sure that Canadians vote early, and voting when you're 16, there's an opportunity to reach out to them," says Perrault.

Furthermore, schools are already places where satellite polling booths are set during elections. How interesting and interactive would classes be if, after learning about political practices, students could literally go be a part of said processes. It seems there is a clear opportunity for change here if students are given the chance to vote sooner.



Timur Islam

Many 16 year-olds pay income tax just like adults, why shouldn't they vote?

# KING

## Consequences of dangerous crosswalks



Lia Aziz

As King students use the crosswalks everyday, it is important to look around for any vehicles out on the road. Sometimes cars may drive very quickly for turns, which is a safety concern for many.

By Ishrat Sikder

As school continues, the safety of students at R.H. King Academy is always a concern for everyone. With the school being situated between two very busy streets, crossing the roads requires extra attention for both students and drivers on the roads around schools.

This was a lesson driven home for many when an eleven year-old boy, Duncan Xu, was fatally struck when he was crossing the street on February 28, 2018. He was a sixth-grader at Kennedy Public School. People described the area being congested during the rush hours in the mornings and afternoons.

Mischa Levine, a teacher at R.H. King Academy, believes that despite the nu-

merous reminders, it is difficult to convince students to follow the rules.

"There is a common teen sense of invulnerability that compounds this problem, making it harder to convince the students crossing against the signals to change their behaviours," Levine says.

David Rowan, the Principal of R.H. King Academy, feels that this issue is a major concern and tries to remind the staff and students of R.H. King of the consequences of jaywalking through his morning announcements.

Since the school sits between the crosswalks of two major intersections, many students choose to jaywalk during lunch or after school in order to walk to the food joints and other places, as students are impatient to

walk to the crosswalk.

Though many may be lucky enough to escape danger a few times, they should be constantly aware of any vehicles passing by in front of them, not only because they could be ticketed for the offense, but because there is a strong chance of being seriously injured or even killed.

Kyron Dwyer, a grade eleven student at R.H. King Academy, talks about his experience with jaywalking. "There was a time when I almost got hit by a crazy driver because I decided to cross during a green signal since I was run-

ning late to school. The car was coming faster than I imagined. Must say that I was very lucky that day," Dwyer says.

The biggest worry is that as the pedestrian signal turns on, the vehicles get ready to turn right onto St. Clair Ave. from Kingston Rd as well, resulting in both pedestrians and vehicles moving simultaneously. Drivers similarly, are impatient to wait for pedestrians to cross the road. This poses great harm to both; especially when there are careless drivers and jaywalkers present together.

With cars travelling in more than six different direc-

tions near the school, the traffic signals do not provide enough safety.

Bavisha Thavarajah is a student at R.H. King Academy who believes that this is an issue which requires quick action. "Once when I was crossing the street after school, I saw the pedestrian signal on and put my foot down, then a car turned by almost an inch away from me. I think a crossing guard should be appointed right near the intersection to make sure students cross safely and to help guide the cars," Thavarajah says.

Although everyone has busy lives, impatience and ignorance for a few minutes can turn into a painful lesson. Be sure to take the time to go to the crosswalks and make sure all cars stop before you start to walk.

*"Be sure to take the time to look around for any vehicles out on the road. Sometimes cars may drive very quickly for turns, which is a safety concern for many."*

## Opinion: what is it like to date digitally?

By Maeson Robinson-McDonald

From Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, to Tinder and much more it is quite easy for people to connect these days as well as effect pre-existing relationships.

Outlets like these are great tools to find others who have the same types of interests, but also very toxic if not used properly. There are pros to seeing someone you connect with and cons.

So what is it like to date in the digital age? For many, it takes away the mystery. Everything is premeditated, not capturing the true meaning of what it is to live your life — taking away the human interaction and the fumbling over words. There is a filter that we apply when choosing the next person we

are going to talk to. This narrow minded thinking could limit the broad spectrum of people out there who could be potential interests you would not normally expect or consider. A decent question to think about is how

does social media affect a current relationship? With the double tap of a button, you can like any photo to and anybody, including your significant other if you have one, can see that you have liked a picture of someone who is not them. Although this may seem ridiculous, social media can cause problems in pre-existing relationships even whether it's just liking another person's photo or commenting on a picture, it does not end up well for either party. These examples are to name a few that dig into the insecurities people face day-to-day.

With the double tap of a button, you can like any photo to and anybody, including your significant other if you have one, can see that you have liked a picture of someone who is not them. Although this may seem ridiculous, social media can cause problems in pre-existing relationships even whether it's just liking another person's photo or commenting on a picture, it does not end up well for either party. These examples are to name a few that dig into the insecurities people face day-to-day.



Aarti Patel

Although social media and technology making it easier to connect with others, dating in the digital age might pose some challenge for people, as people may portray themselves differently online.

The worst part is, many people now base their relationship off if they are "couple goals" or not. They

are basing their relationship off of people who don't even have a sense of the full connection. All I have to

say is keep an open mind to who you meet and tread lightly with that double tap feature!



# The importance of guidance counsellors

By Ishrat Sikder

As the university and college application time starts students in grade twelve, their guidance counsellors and parents become busy planning for the students' future following high school into a new world of learning and this is an experience that can be critical in setting up a successful future.

For many, the November break passes by visiting different colleges and universities, speaking with professors and attending information nights and seminars to search where the high school students will go to. Guidance counsellors do a lot of this work to help you navigate all the options.

This is a process that begins towards the end of grade eleven when students start thinking about course selection for next year. But this does not occur throughout the year as students usually make their own decision without proper consultation. Many students act according to their parents' decision which can result in a poor performance in a certain course.

In the course of a stu-

dent's high school life, they can consult with guidance counsellors at any time and not just during the admission period to grade nine and in grade twelve to prepare for higher education.

Fatin Noor, a grade twelve student at R.H. King Academy believes that the guidance counsellors are not there just to give some tips and a professional therapy session, but are an old friend with wisdom who can guide students through their young-adult lives.

"Ever since I joined King, I had not spoken with my counsellors until this year as I had one from elsewhere, but I think it is very important and a must for every student. They help us apply for universities and colleges we have chosen to attend and any scholarships best for a certain student. However, it is more helpful if the counsellors know about the student for a longer period of time," Noor says.

Progressing into high school brings in great amount of stress to all students, including family and personal issues that sometimes interfere with education. "People from some families do not feel comfort-



Kaleigh MacMillan

At R.H. King, the guidance department plays an important role in supporting the academic success of students. Whether students discuss their course selections for the upcoming year, plans for post-secondary education or personal issues, every student is welcome to visit student services to get the support they need.

able sharing difficulties that they are going through with their parents, let alone guidance. But holding everything all in and piling up problems will only delay the explosion for later," Noor says.

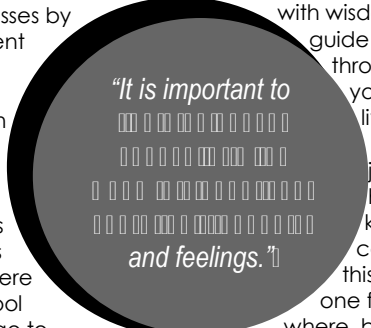
It is important to find a guidance counsellor with whom a student can share their thoughts, feelings, and

discuss any questions they have to find proper answers to. This can help them avoid making poor decisions and establish a good relationship in order to create a well-planned future within the first three years of school.

Along with Mr. Podur, Mr. Halliday, and Ms. Ilisan, Ms. Cole is one of the staff on

hand to help kids with their needs.

"My role is to support and advocate for students. My goal every day is to meet my students with kindness. I want them to know that no matter how difficult things may feel there is always someone who supports and cares about them," Cole says.



"It is important to  
and feelings."

## Why should you join King's councils?



Kaleigh MacMillan

The King Environment Council is one of the many councils that are available for students to join at R.H. King.

By Mamoiee Aratrik

All students are welcome to join clubs or councils at King while students in the leadership program are required to join a few each year to collect leadership points.

Aklima Hossain, a grade eleven student, believes that her participation and involvement in councils and clubs is a great way for her to meet new people and learn outside the typical classroom.

"I don't think I would ever meet and make these many friends if I did not involve myself at King. Growing up, I was always an introverted

person and when I came to R.H. King Academy in grade nine, it was difficult for me to participate in the councils. As time passed by, it gradually became easier for me to work in a team and cooperate with other students," Hossain says.

Involving yourself in school opens up many opportunities for students to discuss problems and issues regarding their school and in the community.

However, George Treiu, grade twelve student at King, believes that while joining councils is beneficial, they also require a lot of commitment.

"By our senior years,

school starts to become more stressful, which makes students have less time to participate in as many extra-curricular activities. Still, the clubs and councils pique the interest of students and that's why I think it's necessary for students to have this requirement. Most students would stay in clubs and councils even after collecting all their points," Trieu says.

Opinions differ among students, but councils will always be the heart and soul of King. There are over 40 clubs and councils to join at King such as, Music Council, Athletic Council, there is sure to be a perfect fit for anybody at King.

## The ban on C and D floors

By Jasleen Toor

Eating lunch on C and D floor at R.H. King has been banned due to the issue of garbage scattered on the ground.

For a few months now, both C and D floor are no longer packed with students eating their lunches. Opinions on this new change differ from student to student.

Ayesha Khan in grade ten at R.H. King believes that the ban was successful. "For the most part, I think it worked. Yes, mess is inevitable but that doesn't mean efforts can't be made to improve the situation. The goal was to reduce garbage on the floors and make the job easier for staff and caretakers, which it did," Khan says.

There are many others who support this new rule made by the school. Caitlin Stark, a social science teacher at R.H. King, feels that C and D floors are a lot cleaner now.

"I know that some students were upset because they lost their eating spots however, in terms of the maintenance of the school, I think it made it easier for the caretaking as it is a lot cleaner now," Stark says.

Although there are many who agree with this decision, some have different opinions. Jaszwini Kunalan, a grade ten student at R.H. King, believes that the ban may have

caused a problem for space because many students avoid eating lunch out and choose to eat inside the school during the winter months.

"It is difficult for my friends and I to find spots to eat at lunch during the colder months as it is more crowded in the hallways," Kunalan says.

As only two floors are available for students to eat without a doubt there are crowded hallways during the lunch hours. It is hard to say whether this ban will continue or if changes will be made to accommodate the issues that are arising due to the ban.

On the brighter note, students should appreciate the cleaner environment and always make a good effort to pick up after themselves. In the end, cleaner hallways are beneficial for both staff and students.



Saadia Zahra

D floor is much cleaner after the ban.

Get in uniform!

PRO!



THE GREAT UNIFORM DEBATE

### THE UNIFORM IS JUST THE BEST!

The great uniform debate has been waged at R.H. King ever since the uniform was introduced in 1989. It is required for students to wear the uniform with the goal of promoting inclusiveness, academic excellence and professionalism. However, as recent the years have gone on, the uniform has been falling out of fashion as students are taking more of a rebellious angle. This may have caused an increased friction between staff and students, perhaps to the detriment to school, culture and studies. This prompts the question, *is the uniform for the best or not?*

With the uniform, the school atmosphere feels much more inclusive because students wear the same types of clothing together. This reduces the pressure for students to keep up with the latest fashion

trend at school by purchasing expensive clothing. Students simply wear the compulsory uniform pieces.

You can see how things can on dress-down days at King as it can turn into a fashion show where there is a clear divide in the classroom between students wearing brand name clothing and those wearing ordinary clothes. The uniform eliminates this socio economic barrier faced by students, while making the school environment much more welcoming for students.

Students at King also are very busy with school work and extra-curricular activities which makes the uniform a time saver. If someone wears the same cardigan two days in a row, no one notices or cares about it. For busy high school students, time is very valuable asset, and having the ability to not think about what to wear each morning is a blessing in disguise. In addition to saving time, students also have don't have to do

laundry throughout the week because of the uniform. No one likes to do extra chores. As a result, students can focus on other important matters such as improving their grades or working jobs.

Of course, the uniform brings a sense of academic excellence and professionalism in the classroom because students learn to dress appropriately for a school setting. Students come to school for an education, and the uniform reinforces the common goal for students to strive for academic success. In the workforce, some students might have to wear a uniform as well, which prepares them to follow dress codes in a professional setting.

By the end of four years, the uniform is a long-term investment. Every back-to-school shopping trip never requires students to buy a brand new closet full of trendy clothing as, thankfully, students can wear the same uniform pieces throughout their years in high school.

Even if a student needs to buy more uniform pieces, King accommodates students by having used uniform sales with prices that are less than half of the original cost. Compared to some other uniform schools in the community, King has a wide variety of options for the school uniform, which range from light blue shirts, quarter zips to navy shorts, which still grants students the opportunity to be creative with their outfits. In the end, a uniform goes beyond a simple investment of clothing, it's a statement on our culture of excellence.



## The origins of the King uniform

At King, every day students are expected to wear the compulsory Academy uniform, but very few students are aware of the history and where the uniform originates from. Here comes a little King history lesson back to a time when it was called "R. H. King Collegiate Institute" instead of the prestigious Academy it's known as today.

Eleanor Blake, a former teacher at King, explains that the uniform was a part of the transformation plan King undertook in 1989 to increase student enrollment. Among the top three high schools in Scarborough were Birchmount, Midland Avenue, and R.H. King but there were few students attending these high schools, which prompted the board to close down one of the three.

"Enrollment at King at the time was declining so rapidly because of the fewer number of students in our home school area. It was essentially half-empty. As a result, the school was being threatened to close down. However, we decided to make a plan to do something unique to ensure that King would stay open and have something different to offer to the community," Blake says.

The teachers and administrators of King decided that it was

necessary to have unique features such as a school uniform, leadership program, and mentor program which would encourage the local population to enroll at King. The school needed to completely stand out and boast about having a higher academic features than those around it.

"Everyone else laughed at us, they said it would be like the 1950's and nobody was going to agree with going back to uniforms. There was a completely opposite effect, though. There were lineups through the door," Blake says. Some of these lines would begin hours earlier than interviews called for and enrollment began to surge. In fact, a large part of King's success comes from the image it projects thanks in part to the uniform.

The uniforms of yesteryear are not the same ones that students wear today. King's modern uniform is the product of multiple transformations over the years. For instance, King used to have an old prefect's uniform, which is a yellowish-grey colour and was made in England. Today, students wear mainly grey, navy and white uniform pieces, which range from skirts to vests to shorts. Mr. Rowan, Principal at King, believes that the uniform still stands as an attractive aspect to our school environment. "The uniform increases the participation of students and gives a sense of belonging to our environment," Rowan says.



I'm an individual!



# PROBABLE DEBATE



Get out of uniform!

# CON!

## I HATE THE UNIFORM!

Without the uniform, students are able to express themselves through their clothing.

As everyone wears the same grey pants and blue shirts, it makes the classroom feel like everyone is the same.

It is better for students to wear ordinary clothing because students are entering a stage in their lives where they're discovering their interests and personalities. Clothing is a way people often use to show off their individuality by distinguishing themselves from everyone else.

As well, many are against the uniform because it is also seen as an expense that only has limited purposes and can only be reasonably worn inside the school.

Regular clothes are multifaceted and can be used for many different occasions such as: school wear, athletic wear and time outside of school as well. However, with the uniform policy in place, students need to purchase two sets of clothing, one exclusively for school and another for anything outside of school, which further increases the already high clothing expenses.

The current uniform policy also faces criticism in that actually

limits the learning of students through its strict enforcement. Think of the countless class time wasted because a sock was not the right colour or because a pair of pants was a shade of grey slightly too off.

While uniforms should reinforce learning, current policies can actually have a complete opposite effect for students who are subjected to picky teachers. Current enforcement of the policy actually bars access to students who may have the wrong colour socks or incredibly minor issues that logically should have no impact on learning.

While students should not feel like

they are inferior to their peers because of the clothes they wear while at school, however it is important that instead of students being shielded from the realities of the workplace, rather students should be prepared to face and be able to handle the economic divisions present in society.

Without experience in maneuvering around these divisions in a professional setting, students will struggle to normalize with their fellow peers in university or the workforce because the uniform has protected them for too long.

**And also, real clothes are just comfortable!**

## King's uniform culture clash

The uniform seems to be a growing point of contention between teachers, administrators, and students. Recent events such as the fight outside of the office have only compounded this issue with even Mr. Rowan coming on to the P/A system and advocating for the importance of the uniform in ensuring that those who go to King are easily identifiable and preventing further chaos from happening.

Don Halliday, one of the guidance staff at King, sees the uniform as a force for unity in the school. It has the strength to bring people together and encouraging those new to King to feel like they are a part of the greater school culture. "The uniform is important because it makes people feel safe, no matter if you're completely new to school and just switched in or a Grade 9 wavy of your new school, the uniform allows everybody to belong," Halliday says.

While the benefits of the uniform has been proven, the real issue that most students have is over the enforcement of the uniform. There is a debate whether the uniform is helping to build a better learning environment or whether it impedes actual learning by focusing on image rather than substance.

A common issue is that students feel like the emphasis on following uniform rules to the letter can backfire, due to the colour of one's socks, or how a buttoned up a shirt really impacts how a student learns. Grade 12 Student, Dia Sanyal, reflects on how harsh enforcement on minor points of the uniform have actually affected her learning. "The white soles on my black shoes or my yellow

socks shouldn't affect my learning or R.H. Academy's decorum, but I've been stopped in the middle of class for minor issues like this before. It's a waste of time honestly," says Sanyal.

A counter argument that preparing properly in advance for school would solve the problem. After all, if students are in uniform then there wouldn't be the distraction for either students or teachers.

Perhaps there could be an adjustment made with uniform rules that may not be worth the time it takes to solve such as the colour of one's socks or shoe soles.

Ultimately in order to solve this conflict, there needs to be a shared understanding of where it's reasonable and valuable to enforce the rules of the uniform. As well as, where in certain situations, following rules completely to the letter actually detracts from learning. This would perhaps give students some leeway for the sake of being saving valuable learning time.



Dress for success!



# BOOKS & MUSIC

## Upcoming Music



March 1  
**Hozier**  
*Wasteland, Baby*



March 1  
**Bryan Adams**  
*Shine a Light*



March 1  
**Weezer**  
*The Black Album*

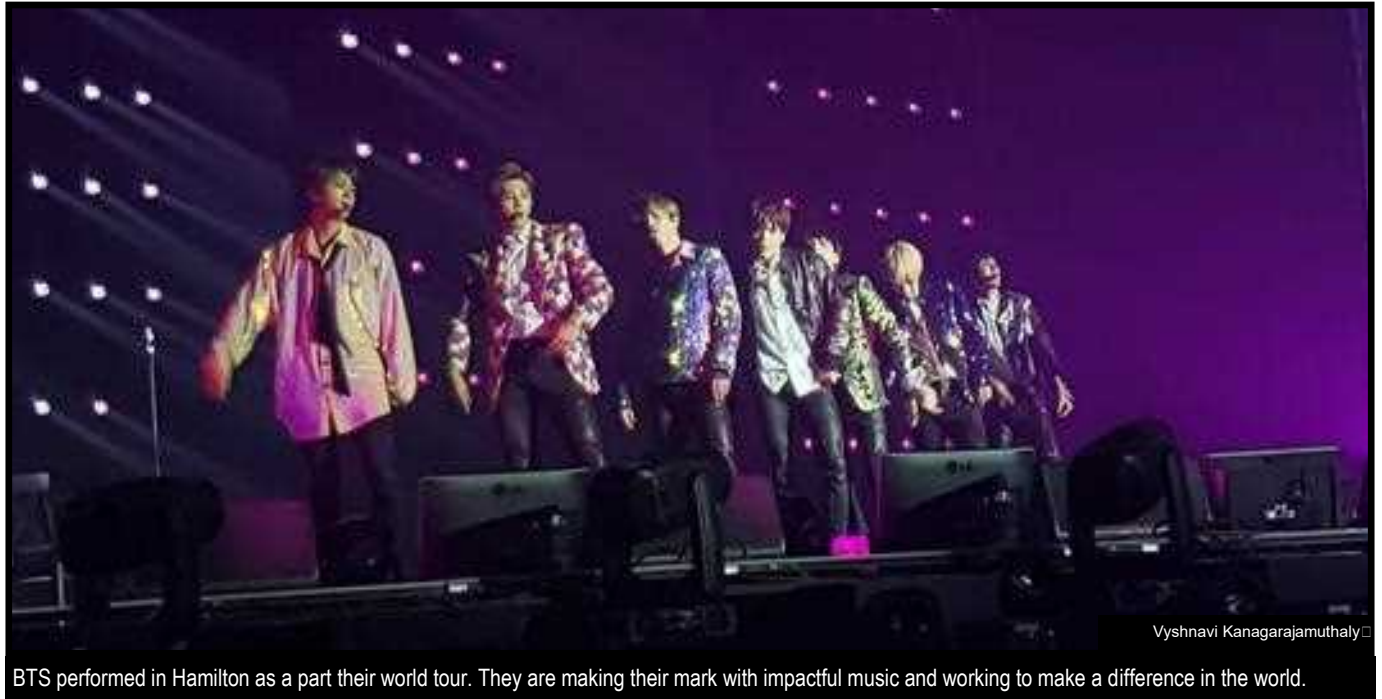


March 15  
**The Cinematic Orchestra**  
*To Believe*



March 29  
**Billie Eilish**  
*When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?*

## BTS, wondering where they are now



BTS performed in Hamilton as a part their world tour. They are making their mark with impactful music and working to make a difference in the world.

By Raifa Sarwar

BTS (Bangtan Boys), a Korean Pop boy group, has certainly made a significant impact not only with their talent in singing and dancing but also with their ability to be role models for their fans.

With the success of their on-going tour, and their end-violence campaign, Love Myself, they truly have been making their mark on the pop culture scene.

At this point it should come as no surprise that many people have at least heard of them, whether they like their music or not.

There are many King students who are a part of their fandom, ARMY (Adorable

Representative MC for Youth). Branavi Hariharan, a grade 10 student, is a big fan of BTS.

"It's crazy how much they've done... and they're clearly becoming more and more known by the public. I think it's because of this that they're getting known as artists and not just K-Pop artists and more people are starting to see them that way," Hariharan says.

BTS has been increasing awareness of their music thanks to appearances on numerous American and UK shows, such as *Ellen*, *Jimmy Fallon*, and *Graham Norton*, an achievement that no other K-Pop artist has earned in the past.

What sets them apart is

that it isn't their talent alone that accounts for their fast-growing success. The group founded an end-violence campaign with UNICEF, Love Myself, which has raised over \$1.4 billion to help with issues relating to violence against children and teens. At the UN meeting last year in September, BTS presented a speech during the launch of the Youth2030 program, a UN strategy to increase actions to meet the needs of youth.

"They're not just artists, they're people who want to change the world and help others in any way possible," Hariharan says.

Fans have opened up about the personal impact that BTS has made on them

from this work, and this may be another factor which adds to their growing recognition on a global scale. "They've made me believe that it is possible to truly be myself and that's something I don't feel with a lot of artists. I've never felt as connected to any other artist as I am with them, and I'm really grateful for it," Hariharan says.

As for the future, the group has recently been given the opportunity to appear and present an award at the Grammys, and be nominated for best recording package. They are currently on tour, and have made statements that they are preparing for their next album set to release in May.

## What is it that makes a book classic?

By Thanigah Krishnakumar

There are many who wonder what exactly makes a book a classic, and this question is no stranger to King students as many of them are avid readers of famous classic novels who sometimes wonder why one book might get the honour above another.

The term "classic" is defined as an item which has been judged over a period of time to be the highest quality of its kind. However, this may not always be true with everyone as students tend to have different ideas of what it means for a book to be considered a classic.

When students think of classic novels, a few which may come to mind could be Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird*, or *Pride And Prejudice* by Jane Austen, both of which have made a prominent mark in literary history. Although, as most already know, people have different tastes so these opinions may not apply to everyone.

Some of the classics we know today tend to have impacts on youth, mental health, stereotypes, or defying societal norms, which, back then, were somewhat

taboo to talk about.

However, the question still remains as to how much of an impact a novel must have for it to become a classic. Does it apply to books like *Harry Potter*?

Shane De Dios is a grade 10 student, and a keen reader of many novels. "I feel like the way the characters develop is something very important, their inner struggles, and how that affects the main plot in general," De Dios says.

Although there are many novels which have only recently come out, students think they should be regarded as classics due to the impact they've made. "I feel like it should be the ones that brought more controversy—like *The Hate U Give*, which made a big impact on the issue about police brutality against black people," De Dios says.

It has been shown through students' opinions that the term 'classic' is not

always about a book existing for a long period of time, but the impact it has had on the reader. After all, authors may not even have to desire for their book to gain a significant label. "When writing a book, a writer's mindset isn't 'how can I make this a classic?', it's 'what's going to impact my audience?'" De Dios says.

At the end of the day, it might not always be about how old a book is, but what it means to the readers.



Does the age or notoriety of a book partially determine whether or not it should be considered as a classic?



## Book-to-movie negativity abounds



The *Harry Potter* franchise is one of the most world-renowned book series to be turned into multiple live action movies with 10 released so far.

By Raifa Sarwar

Students find that film adaptations from books often fail

to do the original stories justice and that directors and producers should instead strive for accuracy.

Movies adapted from books have shown to not always be accurate, as the directors behind them do not always take the fans' emotions towards the story seriously.

Perhaps, they wish to make more money by using old tropes to gain the interest of teenagers, or there is simply too much of the storyline to cover into a 1-2 hour film. There are sometimes obvious challenges, including that some scenes in books may work well on paper but not be as exciting to sit and watch.

This is something filmmakers have to deal with but the results can be mixed. The production process is not as simple as "copy and paste"—the option of just placing every detail from the story to please the audience is not always possible.

"Books usually have a lot more detail in terms of the character's thoughts," says Deeya Patel, a grade 10 student who is an avid reader of many novel series.

"Reading the books gives

you the opportunity to use your own imagination. You see everything the way you want it to be," Patel says.

This ability to make every aspect of the story suit the reader's desired image is likely the prime cause as to why adaptation of many books seems so difficult.

This may be the reason why the controversy of negative opinions on the movies seems to occur.

It's no surprise that when news breaks out about a well-known story being adapted to film, the initial reaction is mixed about if this is a good or bad thing.

"I'm excited about it at first, [because]

it's a major step

into the franchise, but I

know that I'll

most likely be

somewhat

disappointed in

the end," Patel

says.

Some book-to-movie adaptations, like *Harry Potter* or *The Hunger Games*, have fared well with audiences while others like *Ready Player One* or *Ender's Game* have gotten mixed reviews. Perhaps there's a reason why many think the book is always better.

"Reading the books

is a lot better than watching the movie.

It's like you're

living the story.

And you can

re-read it as

many times as

you want.

That's why I

prefer books.

They give you

more detail.

And you can

imagine the

characters

yourself.

That's why

I love books.

They're the

best.

And you can

read them

anytime.

That's why

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## Upcoming Books



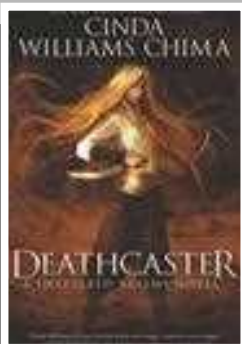
February 26

**The Music of What Happens**  
- Bill Konigsberg



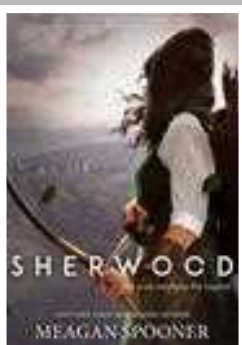
February 26

**Four Dead Queens**  
- Astrid Scholte



March 5

**Deathcaster**  
- Cinda Williams Chima



March 19

**Sherwood**  
- Meagan Spooner

## Opinion: alt-rocker takes on issues

By Sazzad Hossain

Grandson has recently exploded onto the music canvas with his strong, politically charged songs.

The alternative-rock genre may not be known for its politically charged songs, but the up-and-coming artist is here to hopefully change that.

Jordan Edward Benjamin, performing under his stage name, Grandson, was born in New Jersey but raised in Toronto. His music covers topics ranging from mass shootings to drug overdose. His single, *Blood // Water*, has over 42 million hits on Spotify. Although he comes from a hip-hop / rap background, it is hard to pinpoint him down to one genre.

His music combines the adrenaline pumped beat foundation, rock and roll's rhythmic drum beat, the guitar strokes of alternative and the synth from classic blues. It is a hybrid between Rage Against the Machine and the Blue Keys.

A grade 11 King student, Joshua Kristenson was quick to try to describe the music style. "Somewhat of a middle ground between The Neighborhood and My Chemical Romance," Joshua says.

What is most noticeable

about Grandson's music is his rebellious, anti-establishment attitude. Unlike many other artists tackling these issues, he is not here to give you a solution and instead gives the audience a place and a mechanism to let their anger out rather than keep it all bottled up.

This is a style that seems to be working well. Tracks like '6:00' and 'Stick Up' both both echo the frustration and anger people feel time to time towards any system or institution that could be viewed as corrupt.

"Even though only a small group of teenagers may find the genre of his music appealing in 2018, the message this guy is trying to send may actually resonate within a lot of us. Like the rebellious attitude and the anger that I am sure many of us foster," says Dhiviya Kumaras, grade 11 King student.

"It's easy for me to get apathetic, but I also feel that the first thing we have to do is get angry. Sometimes, we tap into this hope and this unity and it's amazing, that is a place we need to get it to, but first we have to be mad," Grandson said in an interview with *Harvard Rock*.

His songs, such as 'Thoughts and Prayers,' released following the Parkland School shooting, reflects that well. "No thoughts, no prayers/ Can



Grandson's lyrics encourage fans to be aware of current social issues.

bring back what's no longer there/ The silent are damned/ the body count is on your heads," he sings in 'Thought and Prayers.'

Most of his songs from his debut EP, *A Modern Tragedy Volume 1*, repeat these feelings and evokes similar emotions in the listeners mind, with the exception of 'Despicable.'

This slow song stands out from the rest, as it centers around the feeling of defeat, inadequacy, and a general vibe of self-hatred and pity. This song helps him transition well into his next album, *Broken Down Vol. 1*, which consists of two acoustic remixes, one of which is my favourite piece of music from him, 'Blood // Water - Acoustic.'

One area where he is

really lacking at is live performances. Still not fully on his feet, it is evident that he is nervous and lacking confidence on stage.

He compensates for this with his powerful, high energy level, and the full spectrum of emotion, expressed through his body language. His timing does not seem exceptional and not in sync with the rest of the performers, but every new artist goes through this phase, and it would be a mistake to not acknowledge his engagement with the audience and his insane amount of energy.

I, for one, cannot wait until he releases more music, and eager to see what topics he sheds more lights on. All of his music is now available online.

"The message this guy

is trying to send is that we

need to get angry.

Sometimes, we tap into this

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Grandson said in an interview

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His songs, such as

'Thoughts and Prayers,'

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Parkland School shooting,

reflects that well. "No

thoughts, no prayers/ Can

# TECH/VIDEO GAMES

## WeChat: revolutionary or potential danger?



Is sacrificing the concern over privacy worth the glory of welcoming the next revolutionary piece of information technology? Some in China think so.

By Sazzad Hossain

The smartphone app industry in China, which was once filled with western copycats, is now being transformed by a superapp named WeChat, the first of its kind.

This chat-based app is capable of providing services that western consumers use multiple apps for. It combines services of Uber, Skipthedishes, Tinder, News, Google maps, and more. It can be used to develop mini apps, such as arcade games, or music streaming

apps which can all be used within WeChat without downloading another app. However, the major concern about this app is the lack of privacy. This app received a 0/10 score by Amnesty International in 2016 in terms of user privacy and protection of data.

This app is currently the biggest in China, with more than 900 million daily users and still growing.

There are many benefits to using the app despite the privacy concerns. For example, implementing this app in

the health care sector has saved about 45 minutes per patient based on the ability



to access necessary information. The true power of the app is not variety of things that can be done, it is

the fact that all of these things can be done without leaving the app. Although this app is very little known among the European and American Market, the ones who are familiar seem to be in awe.

A King student, Ormim Bari, has been using it for some time. "I actually know of WeChat from a YouTuber who lives in China and explores his country," he said. The biggest concern seen with this app is the privacy and security of the user's data. Given all the features

and possible usage, it collects a staggering amount of personal and sensitive data, all of which is fully available to the socialist government, who has a history of cracking down on citizens who hold different opinions.

"In mainland China, the government controls all of your life anyway," said Tasnim Hakim, another King student. "I am shocked by the fact that Chinese people have accepted this [lack of privacy]. I know for sure tons of people living in other countries would feel very disturbed if the government knew everything they do."

Many western tech giants have tried to mimic the concept behind WeChat but have yet to succeed. WeChat has faced a massive failure when trying to expand to other countries.

Grade eleven King student, Nawid Faize, has doubts about WeChat working in Canada.

"Even if WeChat was to fix this issue, which I doubt they could, they would have to compete for people who already use a certain set of apps that have a pre-established consumer base." We are from the open market, we have variety and competition, even between apps," says Faize.

Born in the market notorious for copycat apps, this giant has truly become the envy of Silicon Valley. However, it is unlikely WeChat will rise to the top in the Western market anytime soon.

## Keeping our digital information private

By Anthony Popov

The recent data breach of Facebook that resulted in over 50 million users private information being exposed has left many social media users wondering whether their private information on their accounts is really safe.

"I was not really surprised by the data breach at Facebook. These types of cyber attacks are becoming

more and more common," says Deeya Patel, a grade 10 student at King.

To sign up for an account on a social media platform, people are required to provide many pieces of personal information such as their full name, birthday, email, and phone numbers. In return, users expect that this personal information will be kept secure. However, these recent data breaches have exposed a major flaw in the

security of major social media platforms, which threatens the safety of many users.

Students are one of the largest demographics who use these social media platforms, making them specifically susceptible to this issue of online security. Most people don't read the terms and conditions of these platforms, which makes them unaware that they are providing the companies with rights over their infor-

mation and the ability to track their web surfing when they are signed in. In other words, any messages, posts, or comments on students' social media are not only property of the company, but are directly susceptible to being exposed by security breaches.

"In terms of the personal information I give to Instagram or Snapchat in order to create my account like emails or phone numbers:

I'd like to believe that it is safe but anything is possible and it is a possibility that these social media companies are selling personal information to third parties like marketing companies," says Thenuja Vittanachchi, grade 10 student at King. "I definitely think that my personal information isn't safe," says Vittanachchi.

Unfortunately, for those who share these concerns regarding their personal information, the solution to this problem may not be as simple. Even extreme measures such as deactivating your accounts on these social media platforms are ineffective because not all of your information disappears with your account. Simple measures such as occasionally updating your password can help, however, if you are concerned.

Ultimately, the fate of users' personal information and the defense of it against future data breaches relies solely on the capabilities of social media companies to improve their security. If people are now beginning to have concerns about the safety of their online information, maybe now is the time to change passwords again.



Even in 2018, the private information of the general consumers are toyed with on a regular basis. Is the increasing concern enough to finally stop it?



# Opinion: step up the game quality

By Quinn Keenan

If you're reading this, do you remember what *Call of Duty: United Offensive* was? Or ever heard of it at all?

In the likely event that you haven't, *United Offensive* is an expansion pack that was created for the first *Call of Duty* game ever made. It was released for Microsoft Windows about fourteen years ago.

Since then, fourteen more *Call of Duty* titles have been released, about one each year, the most recent one being *Call of Duty: Black Ops 4*. I just want to know one thing: why?

Why have there been fifteen *Call of Duty* games released? When did video game creators start caring more about quantity over quality? Because I would argue that only six *Call of Duty* games out of the fifteen are actually worth your time. When did we stop caring about originality?

The *Call of Duty* series is so popular that any game with the words "Call", "of" and "Duty" slapped on the cover is going to make money regardless of how low quality it is. So Treyarch, Infinity Ward, and Sledgehammer

Games (the three developers of the games) can just flood the market with mediocre COD games and make a fortune. And really, gamers have no one to blame but themselves.

Quality over quantity applies to almost everything in life. Take Rockstar Games for example: they took about five years to make *Grand Theft Auto V* and I would argue it's one of the greatest games of all time. I can only imagine how good the *Call of Duty* series would be if the developers took five years to create their games, instead of only one or two.

EA Sports is a major publisher that consistently puts quantity over quality. Every

year, a new *FIFA* game is released. However, the main improvements made between games each year are just roster updates, subtle graphics improvements, slight game mechanics tweaks and other small things that don't justify making an entirely new game every year.

I have to say though, *Black Ops 4* is making steps in the right direction with the COD series. I hated playing most of the futuristic COD games for numerous reasons, one of them being the flying. I should have complete control in a game and I will never forgive Sledgehammer Games for taking that away.

*Black Ops 4*, although

being a futuristic COD game, got rid of the story mode and introduced a battle royale mode. It's a fantastic idea because COD has my favorite FPS game mechanics of any game series. Playing *Call of Duty* feels butter-smooth in my hands, better than any FPS game I've ever played. It was a risk to innovate and change things up, but in this case it was worth it.

If all large video game creators took some time to regroup and put a few years' worth of effort into their games instead of pumping out plenty of mediocre games for money's sake, I wouldn't feel the need to be writing this article right now.



Will video game developers finally start to prioritize a better gaming experience over a bit of extra revenue?

## Upcoming Games



**Anthem**  
(PS4/XB1) - February 22

Players can fight beasts and explore the open world while wearing customizable exoskeletons.



**Devil May Cry 5**  
(PS4/XB1) - March 8

The fifth game in the massively popular hack and slash series debuts this March!



**Mortal Kombat 11**  
(PS4/XB1, Switch) - April 23

Get over here! New fatalities await those who enter the tournament.



**Days Gone**  
(PS4) - April 26

An open world, survival horror, action-adventure exclusive to the PS4.

# Elon Musk's long term Tesla impact

By Sazzad Hossain

As a result of a lawsuit by the US Securities Exchange Commission (SEC), Tesla CEO Elon Musk, has decided to step down as Chairman of the board of directors.

This decision is part of the settlement between Tesla and SEC, following the lawsuit claiming that Musk misled and defrauded Tesla investors. The settlement includes a \$40 million payoff to the investors. This lawsuit came with multiple complaints of whistleblower retaliation and even accusations of a drug ring within the company. Tesla's stock

at one point hit their lowest since March 2017, however the production rate has gone up by 51% since the beginning of 2018.

The fans and investors of Tesla are divided on this issue and the decisions. Many fans believe Tesla will have a hard time turning a profit and will struggle with their identity.

"Elon Musk was a huge part of the company, and how he had great ideas to support their company, he was essential to Tesla's image as a leading innovative tech

company," says Ridwan Hasnat, a student at King and a fan of Tesla.

The tweet that really started it all was a tweet from Elon Musk, who stated that Tesla was going private, which caused a lot of tension and anxiety amongst the shareholders.

Some investors believed that this impulsive attitude of Musk's is what makes him a potential danger to Tesla. As part of the settlement, all of his social media activities, especially tweets,

"Elon has a brilliant mind, but his actions are very concerning."

regarding Tesla must always be preapproved by a lawyer. He will also be ineligible to be a member of the board of directors for at least three years.

"Elon has a brilliant mind, but his actions are very concerning to the public, especially customers or potential investors," says Tasnim Haque, another student from King and Tesla critic. "Tesla could do just as well or even better in the future, without Elon making self-destructive moves and ruining their image every day."

The new board is most likely to shut down Elon Musk's yet to be successful, and often extremely expensive, pet projects. This move will allow Tesla to invest more in the production of the more successful models they've made in the past like the model S.

There are concerns about the potential dissent between Elon Musk and the new chairman leaving many to wonder how everything will finally settle down at the company.

According to a report from CBSnews.com, Tesla has recently reported its second consecutive quarter of profit growth which is sure to make current investors happy and give hope to fans that Tesla will be around for years to come to offer new ideas and innovations that the company is so well known for in the world.



Does Tesla need Elon Musk behind the wheel to continue its quest to claim a large share of the auto industry?

# MOVIES & TV

## Upcoming TV Shows

By Lia Aziz



### The Enemy Within

March 15th, 2019

A former CIA agent, Erica Shepherd, is the most notorious traitor in modern American history. She is serving life in prison when one day an agent enlists her help to find a criminal she knows all too well.



### Chilling Adventures of Sabrina

April 5th, 2019

In season 2, Sabrina's life will take a different and darker turn but her growth will be evident as the season progresses. New characters will also be introduced this season.



### Killing Eve

April 7th, 2019

The British drama will continue with the cat and mouse chase of Villanelle and Eve. The season will begin with Eve reeling as she is searching for a missing and stabbed Villanelle.



### Game of Thrones

April 14th, 2019

Game of Thrones is back with its final season. Daenerys and her army have arrived in Winterfell. Who will win in the battle between the living and the White Walkers now that winter is here?

## To All The Boys I've Loved Before - a review

By Sumaiya Nabiha

To All the Boys I've Loved Before is a teenage romance movie full of affection and a bit of madness but is definitely worth your time.

Based on the book by Jenny Han, what makes this film special from all the other romantic offerings is in the diversity in the cast, relatable characters and a solid love story.

The diversity is what brings out the best in the film with a young Asian woman as the main lead for her first film.

This is refreshing to see as the American film industry typically suffers from a lack of diversity.

The show also does a good job of showing interracial relationships in a positive light, despite some of the struggles they face. For example, Peter and Lara's social backgrounds and



Peter and Lara anchor the film with a relatable relationship dynamic that constantly keeps audiences interested.

personalities combine to create a teenage super couple.

The characters allow the audience to connect with them. In the beginning, Lara Jean is very shy and has difficulty conveying her feelings. She writes letters but never sends them. However, they are accidentally sent out. This later shows how she grows as she starts to socialize by going to parties and class trips. She is a role model as young girls can admire her for overcoming her adversities.

Kamana Chapagain in

grade 9 admires Lara's confidence. "She has self worth because she knows how she is being treated and deals with it in a respectful way. For that, I think she is great and I would like to be as strong as her," Chapagain says.

Whereas Peter Kavinsky, played by Noah Centineo, is a typical jock. Despite his tough demeanor, he has a soft side with good values.

From this movie, teenagers can learn how to build a stronger bond together. Tanvee Aziz, a grade 9 student at King likes how

having a positive relationship where people respect each other can make a difference in their lives and make them happier in the end. "It made me think that true love exists and how strong connections can be made," she says.

By supporting each other and understanding their differences Peter and Lara were able to create better versions of themselves. The diversity and chemistry of the couple is worth watching, which is why many teens loved and appreciated this movie.



Watching TV is not the waste of time it is perceived to be. While being a couch potato, there may be important lessons to be learned.

## Is TV a waste of time?

By Vaidehi Trilokia

Some of the most important life lessons can be learned through TV, which means it may not be the total time waster that many imagine.

There are many benefits to watching television other than pure entertainment.

Amrita Jogee, a grade 10 student at King has grown up watching television and believes it has helped her.

"Watching TV has taught me many important life lessons. One of them would have to be the importance of friendship, which I learned from Hannah Montana. I was impressed by her value of friendship and started incorporating it into my own life."

Netflix came out with a show called 13 Reasons Why (2 seasons have released so far with plans for a third) about a young woman who commits suicide and revolves around the impact this has on the people she knew.

This show taught many lessons to students including the potential consequences of bullying. The show sparked many important conversations on the issues it raised which helped cement its

importance.

Jogee feels another show is also currently teaching teenagers something important, though it may seem unlikely. "Supernatural is a show that I have been watching for some time now. This particular show has taught me to accept people for who they are."

Watching television can also benefit students as they may be encouraged to go into a particular professional field.

Prachi Thaker is a grade 10, drama student at King and is considering acting as a career.

"Watching TV has inspired me to consider acting as a professional career. Watching TV as helped me improve my acting skills. I observe their techniques and the way they deliver their lines and try to apply that to my performances. TV has made me become more creative, as it helps me think outside of the box."

While there are many shows that can have a positive, lasting impact on teenage viewers, it's important to be able to judge each show based on its own merits.

## Diversity trend in movies

By Yamrot Girma

Diversity in movies is what can give balance to the film industry because it better reflects the many different cultures in society which helps audiences feel better represented.

Iqram Farah, a grade 11 student, believes that diversity in the film industry is becoming much more popular today.

"Marvel had a cast which was mainly white people so they listened to what the people wanted and made Black Panther and other movies that were racially diverse," Farah says. Farah also mentions that the Avengers films have grown to become a bit more diverse. This can be seen in particular with the recent entries Infinity War and upcoming films like Captain Marvel.

Students are more likely to watch movies where they feel a sense of connection and understanding. Esther Mae Sicut, a grade 10 student at King, believes that diversity in movies makes her relate to the story better

"I feel like being able to see that there is someone in the spotlight who looks like you being portrayed as who they are makes you feel happy because they have the chance to showcase who they are and what their culture is," she says.

Diversity in film is becoming more open to different cultures and it's taking a new stand on embracing the cultures around us.

There are many positive impacts that come out of this like being able to share with your friends what it means to come from where you do or see things from a new perspective which leads people to appreciate and respect each other even more.

There are many ways in which having diversity in movies gives an individual a way to connect and understand others.

Diversity and better representation in films is a growing trend that is opening up to different cultures and lets individuals get a glimpse into cultures so that they may understand and admire them even more deeply.



Black Panther was celebrated for its diversity in both the cast and crew.



## Celebrity couple defies stereotypes

By Nusaibah Nawar

Marriage has always been an important part of India where it is celebrated with joy and with multiple night of festivities.

Some parts of India still believe that a marriage should be between a girl and with a boy of the same religion, race and same age group otherwise the relationship may not be a long-lasting one.

It seems as though now that some perspectives might have changed about interracial marriages after Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas very publically defied the stereotypes. The power couple got married in the first week of December. Jonas is a Christian while Chopra is a Hindu.

They are currently one of the most popular couples in the entertainment industry.

Mifta Zannah, a grade 10 student at R.H. King is proud of the power couple.

"This couple definitely knows what love is. To them, love is not about races or gender, love just happens," Zannah says.

In a recent interview with *Cosmopolitan*, Jonas talked about his relationship with Chopra and what it was that made it so special. "So many things," he said in the interview.

"I can go on and get all mushy but the thing that really connected both of us is our love for family and faith and importance of

being connected to those who are always going to be with you."

Chopra is one of the few Bollywood actresses to marry an American man. The pair were continually being targeted towards hatred from the public for a variety of reasons including the fact that Jonas is a full ten years younger than Chopra.

Being able to handle all this and still put a smile on requires great strength which the couple have shown they have on multiple occasions.

The power couple has shown the world through their fans that race, religion and age does not matter at all when it comes to a good relationship.



Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Nick Jonas are blazing new trails in how relationships are viewed across the world.

## Movies that highlight social justice



and *Ocean's 8* are just some of movies that depicted social justice issues last year.

By Sandana Ganesh

Over the years, issues such as race and gender equality have been brought to light and have gained attention through the media. Recently, directors have introduced social justice issues as the basis of their films and have produced ground-breaking movies that have left a mark on viewers across the globe.

Three movies that have added to this impact in the world of film last year were *The Hate U Give*, *Love, Simon*, and *Ocean's 8*.

*The Hate U Give*, directed by George Tillman Jr., was released in October 2018, and is largely about police brutality in the United States of America.

The film stars a teenage

girl named Starr Carter who does a great job of portraying the emotional battle her character faces after her friend was fatally shot before her eyes. She makes it a goal to find justice for her friend, and when the court system fails her, she takes matters into her own hands by becoming an advocate for social justice.

This movie goes over a sensitive topic and demonstrates how racism separates and breaks people apart. Shiloh Boswell, a grade 10 student at R.H. King likes the movie and appreciates it. "The movie is important because it gives an accurate representation of the lives of black Americans," Boswell says.

This movie does a phenomenal job showing the

power of one's voice and by using it, people can spark a change in society.

*Love, Simon*, directed by Greg Berlanti was released spring last year and is about a 17-year-old named Simon Spier whose love story is quite complicated.

He has not come out to his family and friends as a gay male. At the same time, he does not know the identity of the classmate he has fallen in love with online. How he goes about dealing with both in the film makes the movie interesting and worrisome in some parts after one of his classmates betrays his trust.

Samira Rahman, a grade 10 student at R.H. King, spoke about the importance of this movie.

"*Love, Simon* is a sweet story

with an important message of self love," Rahman says.

This movie highlights the struggles a gay youth faces in a way that many can relate to today.

*Ocean's 8*, directed by Gary Ross, stars Sandra Bullock as Debbie Ocean as she leads her team of seven criminals.

The group's goal is to steal a necklace worth over \$150 million. Each member has their own unique skill, making the team one that's hard to beat.

This movie stars an all-female cast and is a great step forward for the empowerment of women. Hopefully this is just the start of a trend that includes blockbusters like *Wonder Woman* and the upcoming *Captain Marvel* film this March.

Keerthiha Baskaran, a grade 10 student at R.H. King, spoke about the essential message that movies like *Ocean's 8* sends. "The movie is a great example of women empowerment and has a great plot to show just that."

Having an all-female cast creates a great example for young girls to look up to and is a great step towards inspiring gender equality.

These are some of the many movies that tackle issues regarding equality. Hopefully the lessons taught through these films are just the start.

## Upcoming Bollywood Movies

By Vaidehi Trilokia



**Total Dhamaal**  
February 22, 2019

This is a third installment of the *Dhamaal* film series. A small time crook gets double-crossed by his own colleague after they managed to get their hands on illegal goods.



**Luka Chuppi**  
March 1, 2019

This is the story of a television reporter who falls in love with a headstrong woman and they decide to live together... with the rest of the family tagging along for good measure!



**Student of the Year 2**  
May 10, 2019

This film is a romantic-comedy-drama-dance film that promises to build on the fun off of the 2012 original.



**Bharat**  
June 05, 2019

The Hindi adaptation of a South Korean film, the movie is a drama centered around a circus in the 1960s.



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## KING TRIVIA

1. What was the original name of R.H. King Academy?
2. Who is the library named after?
3. How many councils are running at King?
4. What VR system is available in the library?
5. What floor is the radio room on?

## Think you know your School?

If you think you know the answers to this issue's "King Trivia," come to the Library and see Mr. Wilkinson for a prize!

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