



Logo by Enni Jiang

"For the students. by the students"

December 2019

All about Mr. O'Rourke

By: Jimmy Chen (Class 804)

Mr. O'Rourke is a great and friendly gym teacher at John J. Pershing. You may see him greeting and smiling at all of the students and staff in the halls. He has been a teacher at Pershing for about 7 years now and his age is currently 32. He is also married to a teacher who teaches at P.S. 69, and has a son named Ryan Rhys who is 7 months old (how cute!). Right now, Mr. O'Rourke teaches both 7th grade gym classes and the Physical Education Elective. One thing about Mr. O'Rourke you might not have known is that he was once a competitive runner. Now he has switched hobbies and is a recreational exerciser.

Here were some questions answered during the interview:

Tell me about yourself

I am 32 years old. I live on Staten Island. I have been married for three years. My wife is also a teacher at P.S. 69. I enjoy long walks on the beach and sunsets. I have been teaching at John J Pershing for 7 years.

Strengths and Weaknesses

I don't believe I have any weaknesses but some of my strengths are that I'm hardworking, punctual, dedicated, and passionate.

What subject do you teach?

I mainly teach 7th Grade Physical Education. I also teach the Physical Education Elective.

Do you have any hobbies?

I use to be a very competitive runner but have transitioned into a recreational exerciser. Being a new dad has changed many of my hobbies. Changing diapers has become one of my new hobbies... It's a smelly job but someone has to do it.

Do you have children?

I have a seven-month-old son and his name is Ryan Rhys.

How do you feel about working at Pershing?

I enjoy showing up each day and teaching at Pershing. I am blessed with some great colleagues that make each day enjoyable.

How do you feel about being in the newspaper?

It's always an honor having an article written about me.



CHALLENGE:

Can you find the 5 other Mr. O'Rourkes on the Shelf?

International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust History

纪念大屠杀历史受害者国际纪念日

By: XinLuo Lin (Class 810)

Holocaust Memorial Day is a day commemorating the millions of Jews and minority groups who were murdered by the Nazis during the Holocaust in the 1930s and 40s. The Holocaust, a systematic and state-planned program to kill millions of Jews and other minority groups in Europe, was one of the most horrific genocides in history with an estimated 11 million lives lost. In 2005, Holocaust Memorial Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly. January 27, the remembrance date, is significant as it was the date that Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest and most infamous Nazi extermination camp in Poland, was liberated in 1945. The purpose of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust History is to encourage discussion of this difficult subject in order to make sure that it never happens again.

大屠杀纪念日是纪念在1930年代和40年代大屠杀期间被纳粹谋杀的数百万犹太人和少数群体的纪念日。大屠杀是一项系统的，由国家计划的，旨在杀死欧洲数百万犹太人和其他少数群体的计划，是历史上最恐怖的种族灭绝事件之一，据估计有1100万人丧生。2005年，联合国成立了大屠杀纪念日大会。1月27日是纪念日，意义重大，因为它是1945年解放了波兰最大，最臭名昭著的纳粹灭绝营地奥斯威辛-比克瑙的日子。纪念大屠杀历史受害者国际纪念日的目的是鼓励讨论这个困难的课题，以确保它不再发生。



Misleading Stereotypes that People Believe

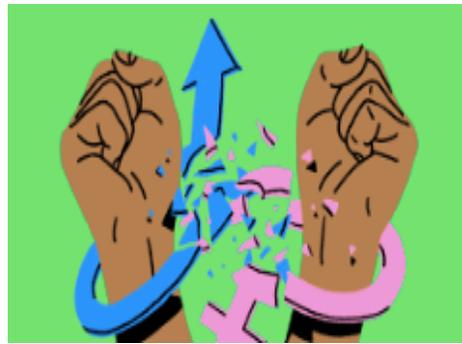
By: Kaela Felton (Class 701)

What Is a stereotype?

The word stereotype is a wide range of different misleading “facts” that describes a group of people or a person based off of race, gender, sexual orientation, etc. Stereotypes can affect how someone is bound to react to something or change their actions. A common stereotype is that women aren’t expected to have jobs in technology or science fields and aren’t expected to be as smart as men are. When in reality, there isn’t a specific way to say something about a group of people that is so vague and inaccurate.

Why do people believe in stereotypes?

People choose to believe stereotypes because it’s an easier way to perceive the world and it feels almost as if you know more about whatever the stereotype is about. In certain cases, there are also stereotypes that are very common and occur very frequently. If that’s the case, it might not be considered a bad thing, depending on what it is. they should be a certain way or should/shouldn’t do something, whether that’s enter a field of work or say something that may be perceived negatively.



Can a stereotype be good?

There are multiple variables in whether or not a stereotype is good or bad. Even though there are stereotypes that can be considered nice. Using the stereotype Canadians are nice, that’d generally be a good thing to think about. But, how would it feel to be put within a group of people with a general thought that may not be true? There are also stereotypes that are hurtful and can make people believe they should be a certain way or should/shouldn’t do something, whether that’s enter a field of work or say something that may be perceived negatively.

Ultimately, it’s your own opinion on whether or not stereotypes are good or bad. Depending on the severity of it, it may not seem horrible to believe in, but that’s up to who it’s about, or who’s affected by it.

The Topic Of Bullying

By: Jacky Lin (Class 701)

What is a bully?

A bully is a person who seeks to harm or intimidate those who they think of as vulnerable

It is designed to harm someone's social reputation and/or cause humiliation.

How to prevent bullying

There are many ways to prevent bullying, including staying in groups, helping those who are being bullied, telling the teacher, and ignoring the bully.

Cyber bullying can utilize bullying behaviours using digital technology, including hardware such as computers and phones, and software such as social media, texts, websites and other online platforms.

Types of Bullying

Physical Bullying is bullying with hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching and pushing or damaging property.

Verbal bullying is bullying with name calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, homophobic or racist remarks, or verbal abuse.

Social bullying is bullying is often more difficult to recognize, and can be carried out behind the victim's back.

Who is at risk for being bullied?

No single factor puts a child at risk of being bullied or bullying others. Bullying can happen anywhere—cities, suburbs, or rural towns. Depending on the environment, some groups—such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning (LGBTQ) youth, youth with disabilities, and socially isolated youth—may be at an increased risk of being bullied.



Some people may know about the “Tik Tok” trend, but do you know what a VSCO is, and what they do? VSCO’s are people who use an editing app called “VSCO”, and are stereotypically believed to use or wear:

- Metal Straws
- Birkenstock Sandals
- Starbucks
- LED lights
- Crocs Sandals
- Ripped Jeans/Shorts
- Oversized Shirts/Hoodies
- Bracelets
- Vans
- Hydro-Flask(s)
- Mario Badescu products
- Scrunchies
- Fjallraven Kanken Backpack
- FujiFilm Camera (Mini 9)

What Is A VSCO?

By: Gwendolyn Canongo (Class 701)



According to some outlets, the VSCO trend-followers are not a great companions with “E-Girls”. “E-Girls” are believed to represent sadness or deeper emotions, and VSCO’s are more cheerful and excited. VSCO’s say things like “and i oop, and i oop” and “sksksks”, as the catchphrase because “and i oop” was originated by Jasmine Masters.

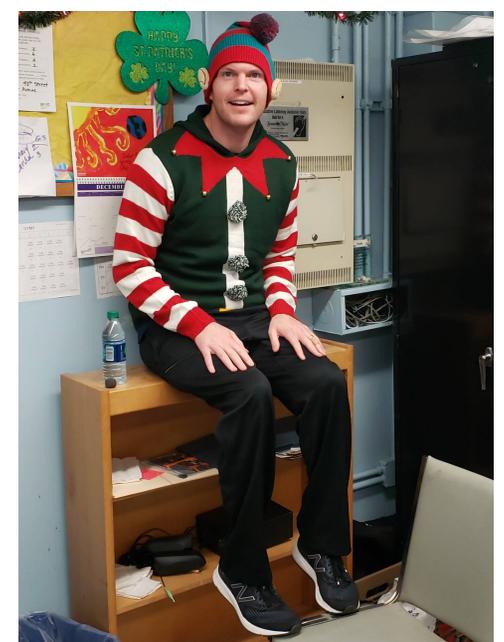
VSCO’s use the catchphrase to express an excited, surprised, or a happy emotion, and “sksksks” as their way of laughing. No matter what you like, it is always important to treat others with kindness and compassion, rather than fighting over differences in appearance. VSCO and “E-Girls” have a way of expressing themselves differently, but should be treated with respect and consideration.

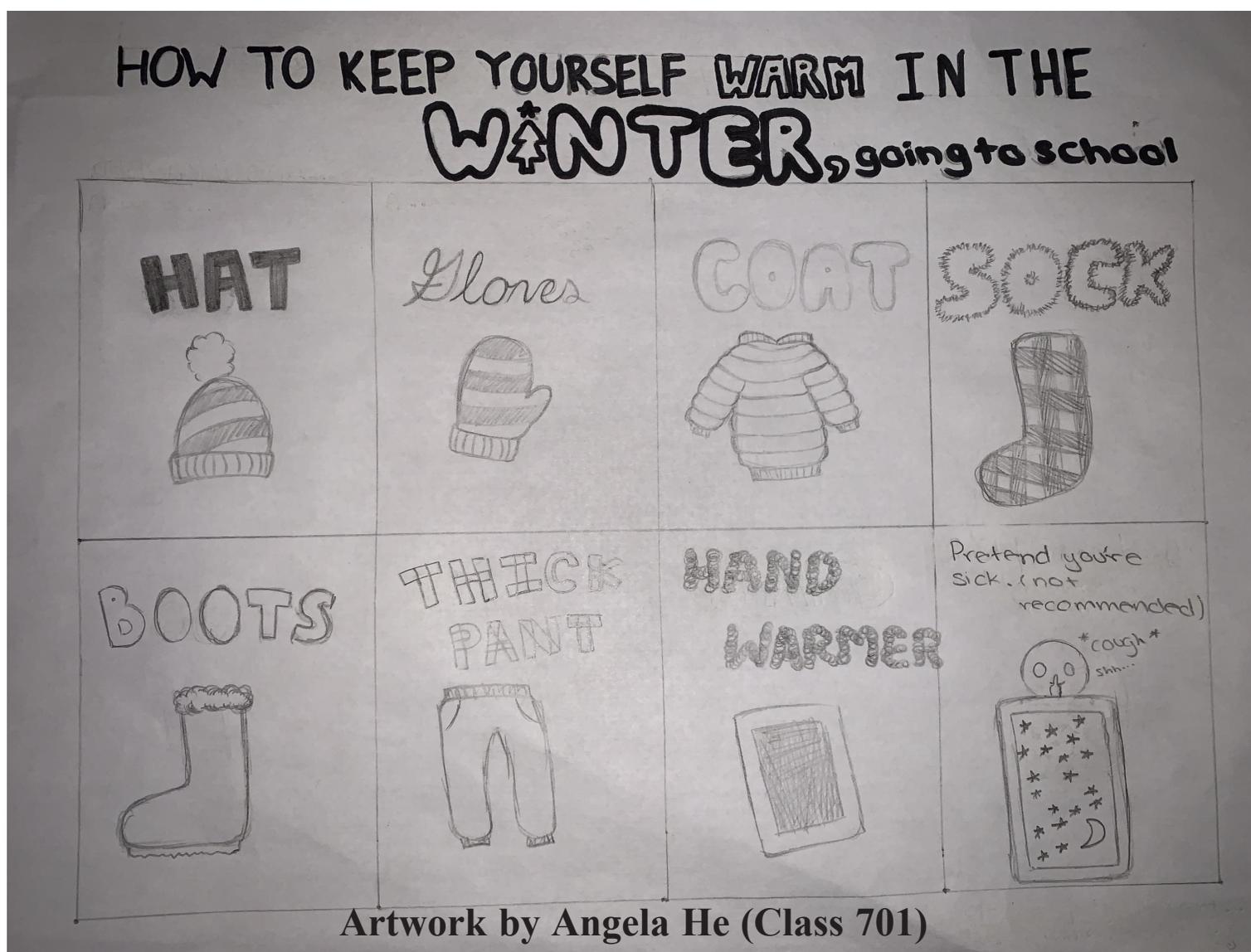
Meet Martin Garrix

By: Helen Ouyang (Class 819)

Martin Garrix is a popular DJ who often finds himself in the Top 100, according to DJ MAG. He performs in the Amsterdam Arena and fans love what he does and consistently support him on his journey throughout the year! Martin Garrix started to DJ at the young age of eight years old. Since then, he has won a bunch of awards; for example, Best Electronic Set and Best Solo Artist! Not only has he won Best Electronic Set and Best Solo Artist, he has won a Grammy Award, a Youtube Music Award and the Best World Stage Performance! His main performance location was in Las Vegas, but he also toured Amsterdam, Netherlands,

Coachella, and all different places all over the world. Martin Garrix often finds his work on the top of the charts. Examples of his greatest hits include Love, The Sun is Never Going Down and Make Up Your Mind. On behalf of his greatest fans, I thank for his dedication to the music industry. And Martin Garrix also go to Winter Olympics and when he first went to South Korea he is and he is scoring the period and when also the including ceremony and when he and Marshmello and when he also got honor and he also go to Armani Exchange for his and Lollapalooza Argentina and Wildbeat Music Festival and he also goes to Electric Daisy Carnival to perform.





Movies Coming Out Next Year (2020)!

By: Danny Yang (804)



Mulan

March 27, 2020

It is about this girl named Hua Mulan and how she disguised herself as a man to serve in the imperial army because her father was sick.



Sonic The Hedgehog

February 14, 2020

This movie is actually so excellent, I'm going to go see it when it comes out. It's about Sonic (Duh!) and how he came to the human world to escape enemies who were hungry for his powers (super speed). He makes friends with this human named Tom Wachowski.



Jungle Cruise

July 24, 2019

The characters are a captain named Frank, a scientist named Lily, and the scientist's brother named McGregor Houghton. These characters set sail in the Amazon in search of a magical tree which was rumored to have healing powers. They encounter many dangers on the way.

Most Common Phobias

By: Jasmine Ramirez (Class 701)

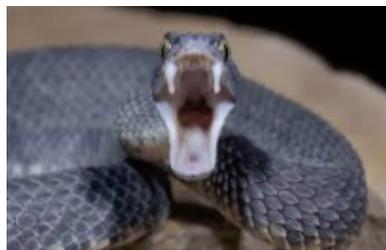
Do you know what a phobia is? Well, it is an extreme or irrational fear. There are a lot of phobias in the world. There might even be 1 or 2 that you have.

Arachnophobia- this is the fear of spiders and other arachnids. If you have this phobia whenever you see an arachnid you might feel an overwhelming fear whenever you see one,

Ophidiophobia is a fear of snakes, and this is a very common phobia. Studies have shown that people might have this fear because they think snakes are disgusting.

Acrophobia is the fear of heights or the fear of falling. People can have this phobia even when they are not that high up. **Fun Fact:** Nearly 10% of the people in the United States have acrophobia.

Agoraphobia is the fear of open or crowded spaces. This makes any person who has this phobia not want to go to malls, markets, theaters and other crowded spaces as often. Nearly 2 out of 100 americans have this.



True Ghost Stories

By: Maalak Bouzraa (Class 701)

Many people have opinions on ghosts, some people think they're real and some people think that they're fake. Here are some ghost experiences that people allegedly say are true.

1. This Holy Spirit:

One night I woke up to what looked like a nun who was frantically praying next to my bed. I couldn't hear her, but she kept making the cross sign across her chest. I was 100% awake and terrified. I told my mom about it the next day, and she said our house was originally built for a priest and that nuns used to stay there.

-Buzzfeed.com

2. That's Right

"I was at a slumber party in 8th grade with a few of my friends when we decided (stupidly) to have a seance in her unfinished basement. We were having fun and giggling as we were trying to figure out who to summon when someone

suggested Jack the Ripper (a serial killer from the late 1800's) and I immediately got a pit in my stomach.

"No," I spoke up, "we shouldn't summon something evil."

"That's right," called a MAN'S VOICE from the other side of the cellar. (!!!!)

There were no boys or men there (we were home alone).

Another girl and myself heard it.

I'll never be the same."

-The Edit News

3. The Rocking Horse

One night, when I was maybe 10-12, I had trouble falling asleep. My bedroom was the entire top floor of our house with next to my bed and such being on the left side and storage closets and a play area being on the right. I was lying in bed when I heard a noise from the other side of the room and see a rocking horse begin to rock. It was sitting just outside one of the storage closet

doors. It proceeded to rock its way halfway across the room and stopped dead under the ceiling light. At this point I was freaking out and just buried my head under my blankets and never peeked out again until morning.

It was all confirmed to not be a dream as the rocking horse was still in the middle of my room when I woke up. Furthermore, I got a stern reprimand from my parents for being up out of bed playing with my toys well past my bedtime. Their bedroom was directly below the storage closet/play area and had heard the creaking of the rocking horse shuffling across the room.

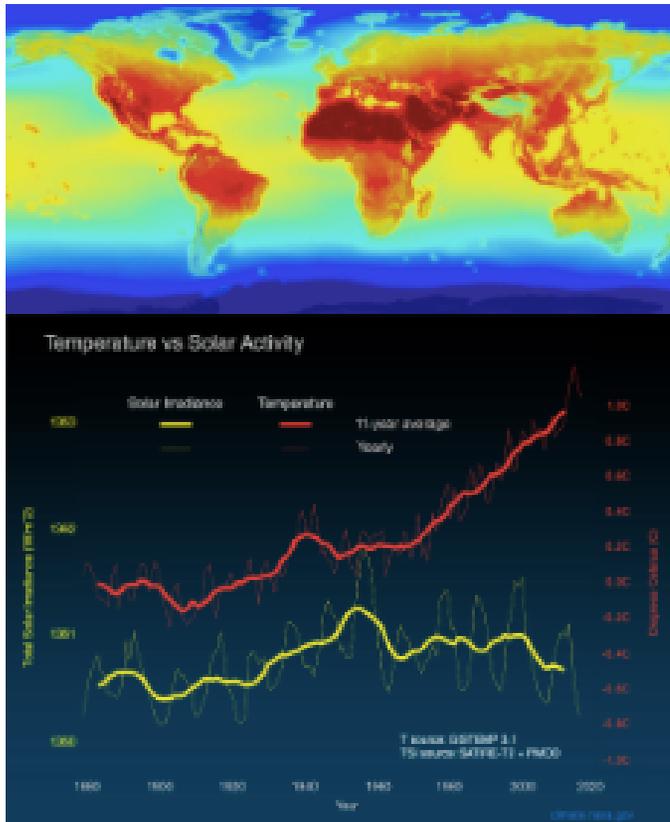
-Huffpost

So what's your opinion on ghosts, are they real or are they fake? Some people feel like they have real life experiences or maybe it was just a coincidence or a scare...only they know for sure.

Global Warming

By: Alvin Li (Class 701)

Do you know what makes global warming happen? Global warming happens when greenhouse gases rise into the atmosphere. Water vapor, Carbon dioxide, Methane, Nitrous oxide, Chlorofluorocarbons contribute to global warming.



Water vapor increases as the Earth's atmosphere warms, but so do the possibility of clouds and precipitation, making these some of the most important feedback mechanisms to the greenhouse effect.



National Christmas Lights Day

By: LiMei Liu (Class 810)

Christmas Lights Day is observed on December 1st. Christmas lights are often hung up on Christmas trees inside of homes and offices, outside on buildings, trees, and all other creative things. They were invented by Edward H. Johnson, an associate of Thomas Edison. In 1895 the first electric Christmas tree was lit at the White House. By the early 20th century, some publicly displayed Christmas trees began having electric lights, although this wasn't done on a large scale until the 1950s. Light displays are now popular on other holidays besides Christmas, such as on Easter and Independence Day. Christmas lights are a beautiful addition to the holiday tradition!



Impeachment...what?

By: Andrea Dong (Class 801)

Have you ever heard of the word “impeachment?” Have you ever wondered what it was, but never remembered to search up the word? Well, you’re now going to learn about what the impeachment process is and hopefully, it’ll help you in social studies class.

What is impeachment?

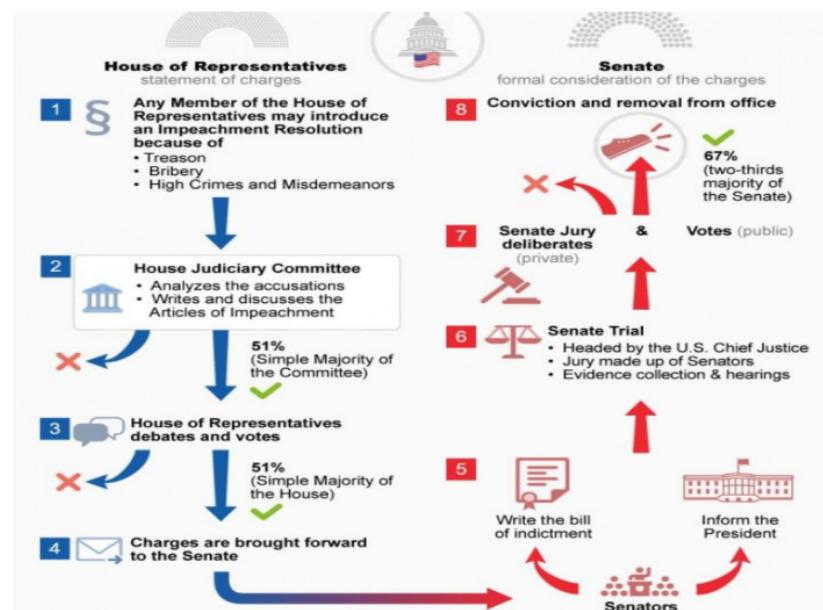
First of all, you have to know what impeach means. To be impeached means to be charged with a crime (misconduct), but the impeachment process is when a government official is brought upon the legislature and later, the judge, if needed, to see if he or she gets to keep their job after committing a crime (or at least something they did wrong).

What is the impeachment process like?

Anyways, here’s where the real impeachment process beings: first, a group of people known as the House Judiciary Committee, consisting of 40 people, have to write a draft of anything illegal that the president has done. To even mention about impeaching the president, the president needs to have done something that violated the law or abused their power (a lot). The Constitution states that a president can be impeached for "treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors." Moving on, the committee will then vote (at least 21 people) to see if this draft will be brought upon the House of Representative. Next, the House of Representatives will vote to see if they want to consider the impeachment of a president after looking at the draft. At least 51% (218 people) of the House of Representatives has to vote towards an impeachment in order for it to happen. If the impeachment process is voted, this issue will be taken to the Senate. The Senate will later vote whether or not to have the president removed from office in the process of a trial. There will be a trial held in Congress when someone is impeached. As mentioned earlier, the Senate has to vote and the decision that has more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the votes is taken. If the Senate does not have at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of its members voting to have someone impeached, that person cannot be impeached.

Donald Trump’s Impeachment Process

Let’s take Trump, for example, he is accused of having done something illegal as president without the Senate’s consent. His impeachment inquiry is currently happening, and at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Senate has to vote to have Trump impeached in order to begin the process that may eventually remove him from office. The Senate consists of 100 members and $\frac{2}{3}$ of them, which is 67 members of Senate has to vote towards either impeach or not. 53 members of the Senate are Republicans and 47 members are Democrats. This might sound unfair since Republicans hold the majority of the Senate members, but if someone really did something that bad, people will know what the right thing to do is. The requirements for the trial of a president’s impeachment is that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court must be the presiding judge of the trial; this doesn’t have to apply to other officials. The Senate members must first take an oath before the trial, and, as mentioned, $\frac{2}{3}$ of its members has to vote towards one decision in order for the president to be impeached. The rest of the trial will be like how every trial works, there will be an introduction to the trial, lawyers speak, defendants speaks, etc. After the Senate votes, it’s only a matter of time before the decision is made to determine president gets fired or keeps his job. We’ve now come to the conclusion of how the impeachment process work and I know it’s not a super interesting subject for some of you guys, but you’ll be surprised to see your grade in the future when learning about this topic.



IT'S TIME FOR THE TOP 10 MARVEL MOMENTS FROM THE MCU (MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE)

By: Angel Molina and Aaron Ku (Class 804)

1) Iron Man Snaps Fingers

Iron Man snapping his fingers is one of the best moments and is loved by many MCU fans. It shows that Iron Man could sacrifice his life to save the people he loves. This was extremely sad, since he had a family and could not return to his 5 year old daughter, Morgan. This scene also included the iconic line, "I am Iron Man."



2) Avengers Assemble In Endgame

One of the most riveting moments in MCU history. In the last battle of Endgame, the Characters that disappeared come to fight in the last battle emerged from Doctor Strange's portal. Then they waited to attack until Captain America gives out the signal, "Avengers Assemble." Now our favorite Heros were all together to fight Thanos.



3) Captain America Picks Mjlonier

This is a surprising moment in MCU, as only the worthy are allowed to pick up Mjlonier. Thor, Hela, Odin were the only known people to be able to lift Mjlonier. For Captain America to be able to lift, it is certainly a riveting moment in MCU



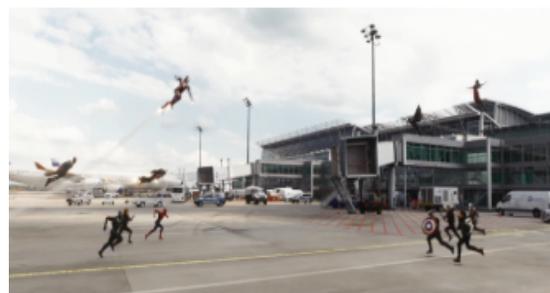
4) Hulk Smashing The Chitauri Ship

When a Chitauri ship attacked the Avengers, Bruce Banner comes and Captain America asked, "Dr. Banner now it might be a really good time for you to get angry." Bruce Banner responded with the iconic line, "That's my secret captain I'm always angry." Then Banner turned into the Hulk and proceeded to smash the Chitauri ship.



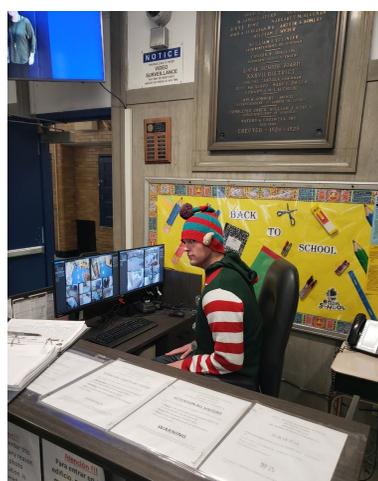
5) Airport Scene

It really doesn't matter whose side you're on, that fight was good. It could be one of the best superhero action sequences ever. You can't know Avengers without ever watching this scene.



6) Peter-Tingle

"Petertingle, don't fail me now." A well known moment in Spider-Man Far From Home. The "Peter-tingle" as all his friends and family call it, saves Peter (Spiderman) during his battle against Mysterio when it is most needed.



7) Thanos Snap

The Thanos Snap is one of the most well known moments in MCU and is one of the most depressing moments. As our favorite characters disappear, the Heros that remain don't know what to do but to grieve over their loved ones.



8) Black Panther Comes Home

You may remember Black Panther was very close to death only to be healed with the heart-shaped herb and coming in with a fancy entrance. Black Panther destroyed a ship containing Vibranium to import to the real world and came in with a flashy entrance. You try to beat that!



9) Spider Man Takes Captain America's Shield

It's tempting to go with Tony shouting "Underoos" but this is probably cooler.



10) First Avengers Team Up

When the first avengers teamed up, it was the start of the avengers. As Iron Man, Captain America, Thor, Hulk, Black Widow, and Hawkeye fight against the Chitauri Army. Which is an amazing moment with all our favorite superheroes.



What was the worst Christmas gift you received?

By: Miriam Gomez (Class 701)

Person one says the worst gift they've gotten was a shirt with a unicorn on it when they were ten. They state, "I was slightly embarrassed and I felt pressured to like it." Their reaction was very surprised that their grandma gave it to them.

Person two said the worst gift they've received was a phone case. They said "I already had so many so it was

sort of pointless but at least I got a gift from that person". Even though they already had that gift they were very grateful for someone giving them a gift.

Person three said the worst they've received was a dictionary. They said, "It was very awkward and I felt forced to smile. It was very disappointing." They felt like they were forced to

like it even when they didn't enjoy it as much as they wanted to.

Person four said they had never gotten a gift they didn't like and they were very grateful for all the gifts they've ever received.

Person five says the worst gift they've received was a book. They said, "I felt confused on why they had thought I wanted a book"

They didn't want a book because they don't read very much and it wasn't really expected.

Even though we have all received an unexpected gift that we didn't ask for, it's important to remember to be grateful to receive anything at all! Sometimes the best gifts are the most thoughtful ones...so this holiday season think about what your loved ones like and go from there.

Many of you must have heard of the app name TikTok. In case you don't know, TikTok is a popular social media video app for creating and sharing short lip-sync, comedy, and viral challenge videos. The app was launched in September 2017 by ByteDance. Over the years, more and more people are using Tiktok. But the thing is, most people think that TikTok should be banned because it's useless and because of all the controversy it has caused. But others believe that TikTok is an appealing app that benefits themselves and society, so it should be kept the way it is. Here are reasons as to why TikTok is a great app, and reasons as to why it should be banned. First, let's talk about the advantages of using TikTok. Using TikTok allows users to be more active and interact more, which could improve their social skills. Also, the app allows

Should TikTok be Banned?

By: Amy Lin (Class 812)

users to be creative with the app's free filters, songs, effects, etc. This allows users to express their talents such as singing, acting, dancing, etc. Additionally, TikTok is a worldwide platform, so there is variety in its videos. For example, there are videos from different countries, which means there are different cultures and languages. Likewise, after you post a video, you may receive comments and these comments allow you to develop and improve.

On the other hand, the app also has its disadvantages. For example, TikTok does not teach teens and youths any new valuable skills that could help them in the future. It could be considered time-wasting. Also, teens tend to think that they can get famous by making TikTok videos, but in the end, they usually won't. Also, teens tend to think

that they can get famous by making TikTok videos, but in the end, they usually won't. Additionally, the amount of cyberbullying on TikTok is a huge problem. In some people's opinion, some might think that your videos are cringeworthy and online bullies might target and laugh at people for that. And the outcome? People may lose confidence, have suicidal thoughts, or in the worst-case scenario, commit suicide. There have been suicides from across the world due to cyber-bullying. Also, there are an abundant amount of underage users across the TikTok app. You have to be at least 13 or, commonly, 16 to use TikTok, however many young users lie about their age in order to gain access to the app. Furthermore, some users don't take things seriously and joke around about serious issues such as politics, and never think about how their words make others feel.

When it comes to someone's birthday or a holiday, people often don't know what to buy for their friends and family. Here are some suggestions for you....

By: Hebe Shi & Siying Zheng (804)

For Christmas you can buy:

- You can make your own scarf/mittens/knit cap
- Toys for young kids/siblings, you can ask them for what they want they might want something like cars/trucks for boys and dolls for girls since younger kids are more picky and knows what they want.
- For older kids you can buy family friendly games that you can play together (fun for the whole family) .
- For some people you can ask them for what they want and buy that. But for others who say that they don't really care, buy something that suits their personality.
- Xbox/PC for kids that like to play games and also get good grades.

For Birthdays you can buy...

- A super large birthday cake
- Clothes for people who like fashion or like comfortable clothes like sweatshirts and/or hoodies
- Makeup for girls or shoes for boys
- Concert ticket to watch their idol (only if your hands are fast enough to get the tickets)
- DIY your own photo album
- Buy A LOT of snacks for people who love to eat

Nowadays, many people have various social media accounts. There are many platforms and influencers around the world that have fans internationally, which may include you. You impact their lives such as much as they are impacting your life. There are fans, stands, fandoms and many more. There are also many kinds of devices that allow you to use social media, so you can always have access to it. Phones are the common devices to download social media apps so it's easy to spend hours on it, but have you ever thought about how it may affect you?

There are many platforms today such as Facebook, Tumblr, Instagram, Twitter, Skype, Snapchat, Reddit, Pinterest, Vine, Youtube, Tik Tok and many others. According to Google, 800 million people use social media on a daily basis. There are different ways you could use social media. For instance, some ways are for school, work, research, interacting with others, texting and many other options. With some social media apps, you can view, like, post and comment on others' posts. Comments can sometimes be hurtful and could make someone upset

Impacts of Social Media **By: Stephanie Acevedo (Class 701)**



or can lead to cyberbullying. People often don't think they will affect another person with a mean comment but it usually does and can go unnoticed by adults.

Many people around the world post comments, videos, and photos everyday to the internet. Unfortunately, people often post problematic pictures to the internet and get bullied, which is also known as cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is when people on the internet say hateful things and harass people online. It has become more common now that many people have access to the internet. Social media has had a huge impact since 2015, with viral video after viral video. Social media could cause harm like exposing young children to a screen at a young age, stop you from doing things like not concentrating on your work and affect how you feel that day. Another problem with social media is that

people can post whatever they want - whether it is true or not. This can trick people or even hurt a person's reputation if a bad post goes viral.

Social Media is good at spreading the news to a large number of people, both wrong and right. If you're a teenager or a pre-teen, it's okay and normal to have social media. Everyone should spend around 1 hour or less on it each day. Also, remember to use it just for fun and entertainment and to talk to your friends one in a while.

Social media can be used for positive reasons - like sending positive thoughts or important messages out to the public, but it can also do harm if it is not used correctly. Next time you post something on social media, make sure to think first! Also, don't always believe what you read online because chances are, it might not be true!

Here's why A.I will probably be the end of human civilization as we know it.

By: Walin Wasee (Class 803)

Robots and artificial intelligence (A.I.) have been a very prevalent force in pop culture. To something cute like wall-e to something sinister like the short story, "I have no mouth and I must scream", it's clear there is no shortage of stories about how robots will take over...but do any of these stories hold any truth?

Well, to judge an A.I.'s level of intelligence, there are 3 categories. First, artificial narrow intelligence is known as "weak" A.I., but don't let the name fool you. As the name suggests, this A.I. is narrow and only focuses on one thing at a time...but it is very efficient at doing that single task. Here's where things get scary. Next, artificial general intelligence refers to when an A.I. has the ability to learn and function exactly like a human being. Finally, the "coolest" one is artificial superintelligence. This is when an A.I. is superior to humans in every way, shape, and form. To properly show this, if there was a graph that compares intelligence and if an ant was at one, a mouse was at three, and a human was at

a five, an A.S.I. would be at 100!

So, why does it matter? 2 out of 3 of these are just imaginary. Well...think of it this way. Take a man from 1980 and bring him to 2000. He would be amazed about the early version of the internet and how cellphones can talk to anyone, anywhere in the world. Now, take a man from 2000 to 2015, and they would be amazed about how you basically have a computer in your pockets with touchscreen, and without dial-up. The point is that tech is improving fast. Very fast. These are not small changes.

These technological changes fundamentally changed society. Think about how much time you spend on

your phones each day and how it makes life so much easier. Do you think the guy from 1980 ever thought the technology today could even exist? Who's to say someone can't make an invention that completely changes society again?

Let's say that an A.I. that is smarter than a human eventually rolls around...what happens? If such an event were to occur, humanity only has 2 paths: immortality or extinction. As already established, this A.I. would be several times smarter than the smartest man. There is no predicting its thoughts...it's like if an ant tried to think about what a human thought about, It's just not possible! It could find the meaning of life, cure cancer, give

immortality or kill us off with as much sympathy you give your hair when you cut it off. So, some might ask, "Why not just program it to love all humans?" How many times did an app or a piece of software bug out or crash when you didn't want it to? There is no saying if there's going to be a glitch or bug that messes with the precaution. Also, there's so many variables to look at. As it stands today, there are no laws addressing this issue. There is nothing stopping a mad scientist from creating an A.I. that becomes a super-god that in turn makes the inventor into a super-god. Or, let's say, you're an old scientist who found out exactly how to make your A.I. work, but it's going to take several more years to finish it. You know you're not going to live until then so you have two options: develop the A.I. but die in the process or just see your creation, your life's work, in action. What would you choose?

This is all looking terrible, so is there any silver lining to make this better? Well, talk about it. Discuss the issue with your friends, your family, your teachers, anyone! Nothing got done without people knowing!



A LOOK FORWARD - HOLIDAYS IN JANUARY

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - January 20, 2020

By: Jiali Wang and Chenxin Lin

According to the US Constitution, the federal government only has the right to designate federal government employees and the holidays in Washington. It does not have the right to extend to US states. States need to establish their own laws to designate the same holiday. Some states were reluctant to commemorate this holiday at the beginning, renamed or merged with other holidays, and only commemorated it in 50 states at the same time in 2000. After the Presidential House passed by 338 to 90 votes, and then the Senate passed 78 to 22 votes, the president withdrew the opposition and signed the bill.

按照美国宪法规定，联邦政府只有权指定联邦政府雇员和华府的假日，无权推及美国各州，各州需要建立自己的法律来指定同一个假日。开始时有一些州不愿意纪念这个假日，改名或与其他假日合并，到2000年才在50个州同时纪念。因为他金牧师不够重要。总统议院以338对90票通过，然后参议院以78对22票通过之后，总统撤回反对，也签署

National Girl Hug Boy Day - January 11, 2020

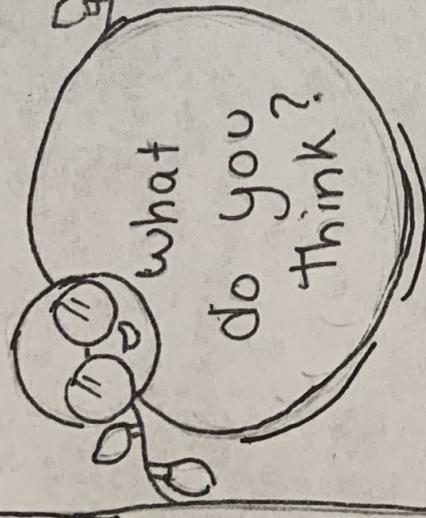
By: Li Mei Liu

We welcome this day with open arms! National Girl Hug Boy Day, on January 11, celebrates the power of hugs. And why not? A hug warms our heart and makes us feel loved. It heals and says what words sometimes cannot express. On this day, girls can go around giving hugs to whomever they want. It doesn't just have to be their boyfriend or someone they have a crush on. Anybody they appreciate deserves their hug.

我们张开双臂欢迎这一天！1月11日，全国女孩拥抱男孩节庆祝拥抱的力量。那么为何不？拥抱温暖着我们的心，使我们感到被爱。它会治愈并说出某些单词有时无法表达的内容。在这一天，女孩们可以四处拥抱他们想要的任何人。不仅是他们的男朋友，或者是他们迷恋的人。他们欣赏的任何人都应该得到他们的拥抱。

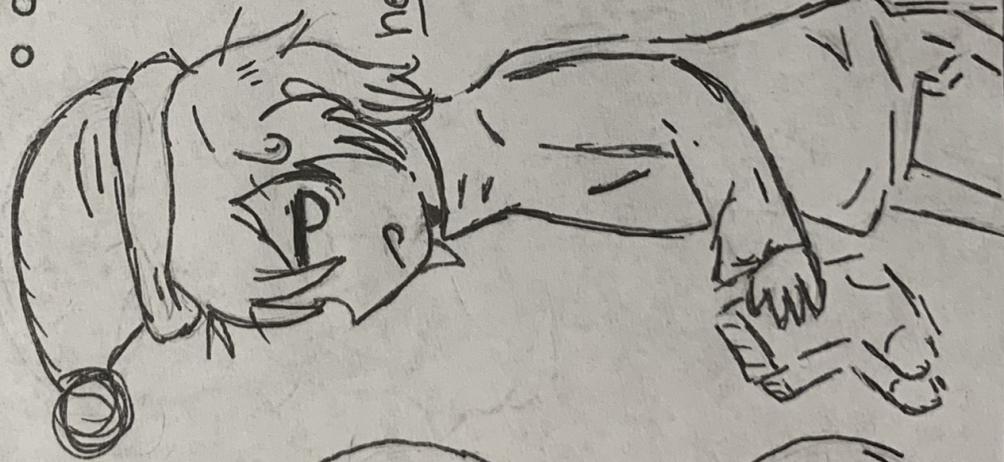


XMAS AS A KID.



what
do you
think?

o o o o



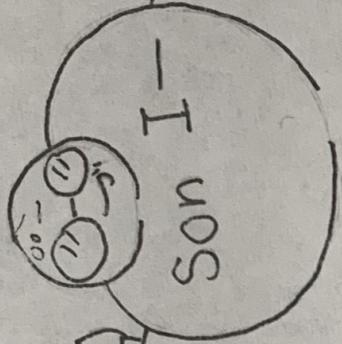
hehehe

Oh...
Socks...
yay...

I'm so
glad

yeah...

XMAS AS AN ADULT.



Son I-

Socks!

Uhh..

ha. ha. ha



ne hehe

pa. no. ha

Vilma 812

