

Colegiul Național „Ioan Slavici”



Satu Mare

ENGLISH  
MY  
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@home

June  
2020

COLEGIUL NAȚIONAL „IOAN SLAVICI”  
NO. 24

Everything  
will be  
alright



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### Being a freshman

In my opinion, the word "freshman" already sums up the essence of the experience you will have during your first year in high school. You get a fresh start. Everything is new. Although I was thrilled about being a freshman as an eight-grader, I feel like the experience was completely different from what I have imagined.

Some might think that the start of high school is the most exciting experience there is, but they also fail to consider how big of an adjustment there is. Getting acquainted with the new academic and social dynamics is not easy. Everyone is just trying to fit in and impress upperclassmen. It is normal to want to fit in, but we should all pay attention not to lose ourselves while trying.

After finding out what high school I have got into, I was extremely proud and excited that I got into my first choice of class. I started making up different scenarios in my head about what freshman year would look like: getting to know all my new classmates, being able to concentrate more on studying the subjects that would help me get into the college of my dreams, and finally being able to turn the page on the immature person I used to be.

As much as I overall enjoyed freshmen year, there were quite a few low points that I have experienced. Learning the various expectations of all the teachers transformed the first few weeks into constant stress and anxiety and the looks you got along the hallways, like everyone was judging every single action you take started becoming the most stressful part of my day. Fitting in with my new classmates was also not easy, considering that my personality is quite different from most of them.

To be honest, coping with all these new things was not easy and venting to people about my problems was not really an option. Every single one of my previous friends has a different experience than me, therefore the only people that might have been able to understand what I'm going through were my classmates, but because I did not know them very well, I could not trust them yet. Not many people knew my struggles because I was quite embarrassed by the way I was dealing with the situation.

As time passed by, things started changing for the better: making friends became easier, after a while I had already got used to the ways of every particular teacher, and the looks and stares on the hallway stopped. It didn't take me long to understand that it was all part of the transition I had to go through to succeed in high school.

Looking back at my freshmen year now, I can see how much I have grown. I have completely new skill sets and some friends that I would trust with my life. I can now wholeheartedly say that I believe the rest of high school will be an amazing adventure that I can enjoy to the fullest.

*Henrietta Pataki, 9 A*

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### *Being a freshman*

Freshman life in high school is beautiful but also strange. Everyone told me, before I went to high school, that the first semester would be the hardest, but it would pass.

Well, the first semester was the whole ninth grade... And it went pretty well. The hardest thing for me was to fit in with the other high school students because when your classroom is in a basement you can't really interact with a lot of people... People always wonder what it would be like if... Well, I think future freshmen will be lucky because our class is the only one in the basement. I can say that this has caused me some trouble but I think I have managed to get over it and I think from now on I will be able to live my dream that I was only hoping for a year ago.

The beginning is always the hardest. Once you get used to it, you can enjoy it and really feel the experiences, without worrying. I knew the second semester would be easier and nicer, but the quarantine took us all by surprise. I can only hope that the next year will be better and that I will live the high school life as I imagine it.

*Paula Naghi, 9 A*

Hi, my name's Ariana and I'm in my first year at high school. I've decided to come to this prestigious high school because I want to become a teacher. At the beginning, everything was fine; my classmates are wonderful, my teachers too. I was so excited because my high school is hosting a lot of projects. One of them had to be "Spring of writing", a project in collaboration with French students. They had to come to Romania and had to stay at our home. But unfortunately, because of the whole thing with the Corona virus, this project was canceled.

Another project specific for our high school is called "Dialogue on the same stage", which is meant for the students from the first year of high school. Again, this project was canceled too because of the lockdown.

Fortunately, there is a good side in this situation. We had a lot of time for ourselves, to sleep, to study, to relax and to spend time with our families. Everything is going to be alright!

*Ariana Pop, 9 F*

In the autumn, the beginning of a new school year sounded a little bit scary. A new school, new colleagues, new teachers... I was extremely nervous before and even in the first days of the year, but while the time was passing, I realized that I had just begun a beautiful and important period of my life.

On the one hand, once the 9<sup>th</sup> grade started, I finally began to discover myself. I became more independent, solving my issues easier on my own and I changed my whole character a lot during this amazing year. Being around new people, listening to their stories and getting to know them better with each day that passed made me find new passions, new ways to relax or to spend my free time and to see my life from different perspectives. In addition to that, I could say that because of my new friends, my attitude changed into a more confident and powerful one, as well as I was able to be myself around them.

On the other hand, I met many amazing people and bonded a lot of new friendships, which I'm sure will last through time. I spent a lot of time with my friends and I began to "borrow" pieces

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### *Being a freshman*

from their behavior, that is why I'm now a more optimistic person and I smile more. They all made me discover the happy part of me and helped me to be open-minded to trying new experiences. With all of these, my first high school year was full of fun and laughter and I'm very pleased with myself looking back at how it went on.

All in all, as a freshman I lived an amazing period and what was new and scary at the beginning turned into something familiar and friendly; into a reason to smile.

*Iulia Roatiș, 9 A*

Well, everyone knows that being a freshman is something new in our lives, it is a new stage. Before the freshman year I was excited, scared, stressed, but being a freshman is very cool. I mean, the freshman year is different because I am part of a new school, I have new teachers and new classmates. We passed the middle school, and now we are in high school where it is another feeling. In the freshman year I learned how to be responsible and independent. You know, everything's different, but it's incredible. The freshman year helped me to mature more and to value things more than I used to. It's cool to be a freshman, but I think in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade there will be more new experiences and happy things!

*Alexandra Dan, 9 A*

Well my experience as freshman was very interesting because it was a little bit hard to accommodate with the new school and classmates, but at the same time, it was incredible. I met a lot of new and old friends.

I had the chance to be the students' lawyer and for me it's an amazing thing. I learned a

lot of interesting things, but the best part is that I have made a new best friend.

*Andrea Borbei, 9 A*

I can say that freshman life is very good, but it is hard because I have new teachers, new classmates. I settled in pretty quickly, my friends helped me, and I've got along very well with them from day one. Being a freshman is great because you make new friends, you have matured, you make many memories.

*Gianina Balazs, 9 A*

In my opinion being a freshman is such an interesting thing because for us, the freshmen, every single thing is new: the school, the teachers and the classmates, and we all have to learn how things happen in school. But being a freshman is also very funny, because we make new friends. And we also try a lot of new and interesting things like going on a trip with our classmates, or going to a party. But my favourite part about being a freshman is that we have a prom.

*Alexandra Borbei, 9 A*

Essays

The quarantine

During this whole thing with Covid-19 I was really bored. At first, I was very unhappy because my entire routine was totally different than my usual one. At least this was the case until I got used to it. I did many things that before the quarantine I have never thought I would be able to do. It's hard. It's more like a challenge. This virus somehow was not just a bad thing for people, because everybody tried something new, something different or weird.

For me [and I think not just for me], the first weeks were just like a nightmare. But then, slowly, they became a normal dream. I learnt how to keep myself calm when somebody or something [my laptop] works as slow as a snail, or talks so much and I just listen, or many other things.

Everyone saw that staying with a fridge for too long makes you look like a football, and many people tried to do some exercises at home, or invented one new way for doing it anytime [I am part of this category].

In my opinion, we should just keep calm and watch a movie, because nothing is endless.

*Alessia Mihaiu-Stan, 5*

### A Summer in Canada

Canada is a beautiful country that is situated in North America. I had the chance to spend 3 of the most beautiful months there with my uncle, aunt, and cousins. I left from Romania right after the school year ended and I couldn't wait to arrive in Canada. At the airport, my cousin was waiting for me with her boyfriend to drive me and my grandma to their house; it was a 4-hour drive which was pretty exhausting actually. When I saw my uncle's house, I knew that my summer had just started.

Every weekend we went on trips to the Niagara Falls, to America for shopping at the mall, to my cousins' soccer games and a lot more stuff that I wish would have never ended. One time, while talking with my uncle, he told me that all of us were going to New York for my cousins' soccer tournament; I was so excited because New York is one of my favourite cities in the world. So me and my grandma started packing and the next morning we hit the road. It was a 12-hour car drive but it was worth it, trust me. We stayed on the 92nd street in Manhattan, at a very big hotel. We stayed there for a week and we visited the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State Building, Central Park, we went from Bronx to Brooklyn, and the best of all that we visited was the Time Square, and Fifth Avenue. These two were my favourite spots in New York. The Time Square was so beautiful and so crowded that I could get lost very easily there. I saw the big Rock Caffè - the big buildings covered in those big screens which were showing a lot of commercials for musicals and stuff.

After that week we went back to Canada. My uncle has a house in Welland, a 10-minute drive from the Niagara Falls, which is really beautiful. After all that I spent a week at my other cousins who live in Tillsonbourg, a really small town where everybody knows everybody. While I stayed there, my cousin, who is 16 years old, decided to throw a pool party where she invited all of her friends, they were all really nice to me and I'm happy that I could make some new friend. With some of them I speak at least once in a while.

So these are some of the things that I did last summer besides my everyday shopping with my aunt. Hope you enjoyed it because I did for sure

*Vivien Mureşan, 11 F*

### My Experience In High School

When I first heard about my high school I was in the seventh grade. My cousin, had who just started studying here, told me about it. I didn't know what I wanted to be, so I didn't know which profile I should apply for. And that's where my mother gave me the answer: to study pedagogy. So I prepared, passed the exams and got in.

What followed, I don't want to be offensive, but it was hard. Sometimes high school can be more of a challenge for some kids than for others. For example, on some days we were the last class to remain at school because we had classes until 3 PM two days per week. We were the only profile that did significant extracurricular stuff like volunteering and choir. But the best and the worst part of this profile are the kids. Don't get me wrong, I love them when I get to just play with them and it's so much fun when you get to help your groupmate with their lesson, and it turns out good. We get to school, hungry and tired, after three hours of practising teaching, and then we have two more classes of just learning "the theory of teaching".

I am very lucky to be in a class which is as complex and efficient as mine. We didn't have a good start in the eleventh grade, but we manage to respond to all of the requirements that our teachers ask of us. Besides the classes in which we learn about kids and how to teach them, we have lots of other classes to keep up with. So many more of them. Sometimes it is hard for a 17-18-year-old teenager to manage all the homework, lessons, class materials, grades and many more. I understand the struggle of the teachers who just want us to learn and to get to be something in life. I like my profile because it's full of challenges which I need to deal with to become a good primary school teacher, which is very hard. Now teachers help us learn how to grade a student, how to teach kids to write, to read, how to prepare them test papers, how to do a presentation and so much more (which is very hard to do in only 4 years), and they learn from us as well.

For me, this school taught me so much more than how to earn a diploma. This school taught me that you can do anything if you have ambition, that not everyone needs to like you, that it's ok to sometimes say "I don't know how to do that...", that you need to lower your voice if you want to get the kids to listen to you, not to do my homework at the last minute, and that kindness makes the difference.

*Larisa Sas, 11 F*

Modern technology is not always what we desired it to be

The society has been dramatically changed with the evolution of technology. Before the rise of modern-day technology, life was pretty hard and everyday chores consumed too much of our time. Big opportunities are being provided by technologies which play an important role in human life. The access to education, medicine, industry, transportation and so on, has been simplified thanks to modern day technology. Due to the convenience and efficiency provided by technology, our lives have improved significantly. There used to be a time when doing a simple task like doing laundry would take most of the day. A lot of burden has been lifted from our shoulders and we have more time and energy to do what we want to as our lives got easier as time passed.

With so many advantages and comfort, comes the disadvantages too. Technology is sometimes being misused these days resulting in affecting the society negatively and complicating our lives. Relationship with family members is being weakened due to excessive involvement with various devices. Although in a few cases, parents make use of the technology to communicate with their children and to get to know things about them which is not always adequate. Technology has made access to education easier, but it is also resulting in weakening the memories of people. Usage of text language often is having serious consequences on students. They fail to spell words correctly or write fully grammatically correct sentences.

Modern technology also poses serious health problems. People are sleep deprived nowadays since taking their eyes off their phone or laptop screens become a near to impossible task. This leads to problems with vision, cancer, obesity and the list goes on. We have become lazier. We prefer to sit and play video games or listen to music instead of walking or going outdoor or just doing something productive overall.

In conclusion, there are several positive impacts of technology on our lives but there are several downsides too. We cannot give up technology now, but we must not let it control every single aspect of our lives. We ought to pay very much attention to how much time we spend with everyday technology around us because we might end up being way too dependent on it.

*Bledea Ariana, 11 D*

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Nowadays, technology is a word maybe as common as food or water, because it's a thing that we use every day without even thinking that it wasn't here a few years ago. Despite that, it is improving every day, but it can't always solve every problem for us.

Firstly, modern technology is all about efficiency and speed. Although some argue that it makes our life easier, with things like electric cars, advanced wrist jewelry or performing phones, we can't ignore the negative aspects which are present here as well.

Secondly, now we are living rough times, with that pandemic and the only thing we can rely on is technology and internet. We work from home, we study from home and we are doing online shopping just to keep us safe and not exposed at any risk .Not to mention that we can't go to visit our loved ones just to make sure that this virus is going to disappear as soon as possible.

Although people are doing their best for technology to work better for us, without any inconvenience, unpleasant things can happen, and we must deal with it. Maybe the internet connection drops, some of the devices can break down, or if there is a storm the connection is not very good ,and those are all bad parts and we pray for it not to happen , especially at important times .

Another aspect worth mentioning is the fact that nowadays you can do the same thing from home otherwise in the past it was only possible if you went to that place, and that should be enough to describe how technology works.

In conclusion, modern technology, is an incredible thing, but not always what we desired it to be, because as long as nature doesn't want us to do something, we won't be able to resist it, and maybe that's a good thing sometimes.

*Feher Ionela, 11 D*

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Nowadays, there may not be a topic more debated than the impact of modern technology upon people's lives and, unfortunately, I have to admit that many of the shortcomings brought into discussion here have already proved to be true, apparently despite initial prediction.

Firstly, one can think of the energy that was created to help us, but the modern technology and gadgets use a lot of this energy and create pollution. Although, some people argue that this nuclear energy made numerous nuclear explosions and experiments at the cost of many lives.

Secondly, computers were invented and upgraded so that we can increase our work speed and the amount of information processed. Unfortunately, people have also found ways to invade privacy, steal property and identities or deceive others. Not to mention the negative effect that radiations emitted by computers have on people's health.

Although, the examples could continue, but technology has also good parts, for example its using in this difficult moments for the world. A new Chinese coronavirus has infected thousands of people and we need to work, to learn, to do everything with the help of technology.

In conclusion, I personally agree that the technology was a good idea, but is not always what we desired it to be, because in this world there are a lot of bad people that try to do a lot of unfair things with the use of technology.

*Nichita Mălina, 11 D*

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In my opinion, technology has become a very important part of our lives nowadays. During the past few years, technology has evolved in many ways and is probably without a doubt better than ever before. People are always trying to find something new that will improve our lives dramatically. Some of the creations that have really changed our lives are the computer, telephone, internet and electronic mail, television, cell phone and voice mail. Everything has a positive and a negative effect on our lives and so does technology. Technology may be very helpful but it can sometimes be very harmful.

Firstly, since the invention of video games, those kinds of entertainment have changed to games played individually, and the impact of such games on family relations is apparent.

Nowadays instead of watching TV together or eating a family meal, everyone in the family is in a separate room, either playing video games, watching football or just typing messages. Though, in some cases, technology helps parents to communicate with their children and know their location, it is not always enough for children's safety just to stay connected with the family.

Consequently, spending less time with family and more time with different gadgets can cause the loss of tight contacts with close relations.

Secondly, modern technological devices and gadgets are the most distracting things nowadays. It distracts people from their work, study and many more, and the results are they waste most of the time by using these devices instead of working or studying. People lost their interest in their goals and ambitions for which they have to work hard to achieve their goals and waste their precious time in practising such kind of irregular activity.

Furthermore, modern technology also involve serious health problems. People are sleep deprived nowadays since taking their eyes off their phone or laptop screens became a near impossible task. This leads to problems in vision, cancer, obesity etc. We have become lazier than ever before. We prefer to sit, play games or listen to music instead of walking or going outdoor or performing any work which requires physical activity.

In conclusion, it is clear that we depend on modern technology too much nowadays. People should carefully rethink about how they should use modern devices for tasks, otherwise, one day, machines would replace the position of human beings to control the world.

*Pastor Ingrid, 11 D*

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Technology has the power to change and alter the way we live our lives in many ways that most of us do not even realize. As the years go by, modern technology has created countless opportunities with endless resources. These resources can be accessed by billions of people worldwide.

Nowadays, technology is one of the most essential things which has advanced through times. I think that technology helps people a lot, but it often has the opposite effect because modern technology is not always what it seems to be.

First of all, especially nowadays, technology helps us a lot to communicate.

This time when we cannot leave our homes, technology is our only rescue. People started using technology to do home schooling, work from home, and keep in touch with the beloved ones. Even if this virus we face, prevents us from getting to school or work, technology helps us get our work done.

Secondly, technology have become indispensable in medicine. It`s extremely useful and without its help lots of diseases wouldn`t have been discovered and it would have been harder to find a treatment for them. Also, technology is very useful in proceeding surgeries too.

On the other hand, having to carry out some activities online, this means that you have to stay a lot in front of a screen and often in awkward positions and this can lead to health problems. And on the other hand, the use of technology can be a problem for those who do not have access to the Internet.

In conclusion, modern technology is not always what it seems to be or what we desire it to be. Although, we have to be careful with it because as much as it helps us, it also can cause us a lot of problems.

*Pintye Ramona, 11 D*

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Modern technology is found in different forms, as the internet, a smartphone or even a heart monitor in a hospital, but regardless of the form, there are many people who cannot live without it, especially during this pandemic situation.

First of all, technology makes our life much easier, because nowadays we have access to all the information around the whole world in our hands, thanks to the internet and new devices like smartphones, laptops and computers.

Since this pandemic situation has started, we are stuck at home and the only way to communicate and continue our activities, like going to work or school, is with the help of the modern technology. Adults can work from home, in front of their computers or smartphones, in cases when the job allows it and the students can take part to online classes in order to be able to learn and finish the school year.

In addition, modern technology, in the form of medical devices in hospitals, is essential in the fight against this situation and not only. Nowadays, due to the new medical devices, the medical system is much better developed and saving a life is easier to do than it was before the development of technology. Also, thanks to the modern inventions we can make medicine and treatments to cure diseases.

A major disadvantage of modern technology is that a large number of people don't have access to it and unfortunately in this current situation that we are all in, these people are trapped in their homes, without being able to participate in online classes and other activities and cannot communicate with family or friends.

Another disadvantage, which mainly concerns the technology of the medical system, is the fact that the devices are quite expensive and not every hospital can afford them. Taking into consideration the current situation, even if we have a variety of medical devices, no treatment or something else has been found yet to stop the virus and the devices necessary to treat the infected ones are in a too small number to deal with the situation in some states.

In conclusion, modern technology is part of our life, even if it's just a phone or a washing machine or a device that can save our life and even if it's not always what we desired it to be, because it has its own disadvantages, at this point we depend on it and can't have a normal life without it.

*Sabău Alexandra, 11 D*

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Nowadays, technology is one of the most essential things which has advanced through times.

I think that technology was desired to help the world in many ways as possible, and it did, but not always in the way the population or the expectations wanted it to be.

First of all, today's population is based on technology. The best example for it is the situation we are in right now. There have also been students who were home-schooled through technology, but nobody has thought that in 2020 we would use such a big amount of technology

for learning at home because of a contagious virus. It's a very delicate situation we're in these days, but technology saved us and we are still able to attend our classes.

Second of all, technology is vital for those people who are in the hospital with serious health problems. Without the modern technology we wouldn't be here today. Of course, technology isn't always a good thing when it comes to the teenagers who spend too much time on social medias or playing games too much time.

But as it seems, modern technology isn't always what we desired it to be. It can be beneficial or not, it can be used in a lot of ways to help and prevent lots of problems. However, it's obvious that we can't live without technology and that's not a really bad thing after all. If technology wouldn't advance, our society wouldn't be able to find so many ways to use technology and we wouldn't have this much health care in hospitals, smartphones or laptops to learn at home, the necessary equipment for making transport vehicles, and many others.

To sum up all of these arguments, I'm not quite sure for what was made technology at first, but its importance nowadays makes me believe that it evolved very well and even though modern technology is not what we desired it to be, it is one of the most valuable things we have today, because through technology we can really change the world if we want to

*Şuta Diana, 11 D*

## Articles

### Las Vegas - The city that never sleeps

Have you ever wondered how would it be like to spend your next holiday in one of the most luxurious and beautiful city from around the world? If the answer is yes, then search no more because Las Vegas-the city of all possibilities, will give you the chance to fulfill all your desires and dreams about having an unforgettable experience. Regarding money, there are lots of special offers for such a holiday so you won't need to worry about whether you, or the people you wish to go with will be able to afford it.

One of the best offers that I want to bring to your attention is coming from a fairly new holiday company that has really good prices especially during summertime. If you're on a tight budget or you just want to save some money, you can get a 35% discount for your holiday if you can find another two people who are willing to go to Las Vegas with you.

This city is known primarily for its gambling, shopping, fine dining, entertainment, and nightlife meaning that if you have lots of money to spend and like to party, then you won't regret spending a week there. However, if those mentioned before do not suit you and simply relaxing is the way to go for you, then you can visit places like the Bellagio Hotel, Fremont Street or even the Red Rock Canyon which is about 15 miles west of Las Vegas,

and is easily seen from the Las Vegas Strip. You can find so many things to do around this city that there is no possible way of ever getting bored while visiting it.

The city describes itself as The Entertainment Capital of the World due to the very big and fancy parties that are held day and night, the astonishing amount of casinos you can find and overall, the way the city looks being almost entirely covered in bright shining lights and colourful LEDs that are enlightening most of the streets there.

So without further ado, you should really consider going on a holiday to Las Vegas also known as Sin City because it is very unlikely that you will be disappointed by what you're going to experience during your 7 days stay in one of the most popular cities in USA.

*Bledea Ariana, 11 D*

The Coronavirus Crisis

As we well know, the pandemic took thousands of people by surprise, nationally, multinationally and internationally, and in the following paragraphs I would like to present my opinion about the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our educational system. Suddenly many of us are facing a risk unlike any we have ever seen and there is, as yet, no reassuring end in sight. Our lives have not prepared us to deal with our own premature deaths or those of our loved ones. We all know by now what it is, and how it influenced our education, mainly by moving it to the online world.

Firstly, I would like to say that I am disappointed with the measures taken by the authorities, for example our educational platform needs development, also the authorities should mobilise and help those of us that don't have a laptop or a PC or reliable internet connection, because even if it might seem odd, there are cases like that.

Secondly, I would like to address the issues of online classes and exams. Even though there are people that are doing their best to organise online courses and give us material to work with, it will never be the same as being in the same room with someone and having a conversation face to face. Also, when it comes to exams, to my mind they will be a risky endeavour, because if the internet connection goes down, or the platform fails, or the electricity goes down, there will be people that will be affected by this.

In conclusion, I want to say that I know that no one was ready for this, no one expected it, and the measures were taken in a rush. I'm not saying that we have already failed, all I want to say is that there are problems that need to be recognized and worked on, so that everything can be as close to normal as possible.



*Ştefania Harbula, 11 F*

### SPORT IN CHILDREN'S LIFE

A long-standing Latin saying goes “A healthy mind in a healthy body”. If we were to believe these words, we could say that our whole life is under the sign of our physical health. One of the best ways we can ensure our physical health is to play a sport.

By practicing a sport since childhood, we make sure of the existence of a physical form, from which we have to gain in any activity we do. Regardless of whether we learn, play or do various household chores, through physical fitness we ensure a high endurance, that is the possibility to perform that activity for a longer period of time.

Along with the ability to easily withstand daily activities, the practice of a sport entails a harmonious development of the body. By practicing a sport, the body is protected from extremes such as: unsightly weight loss or obesity. With this balanced shaping of the body, we will learn our body with a healthy diet. These aspects also have a direct influence on our physical health and allow us to more easily avoid various diseases.

Only from a biological and medical perspective, the practice of a sport sets the blood in motion, which entails a proper oxygenation of the brain, as well as an additional boost of energy for the whole body. The direct result of the correct energizing of our body is the increase of muscle tone, but also the increase of the desire for life.

But perhaps the most important negative aspects combated by practicing a sport are sedentary lifestyle and stress. Both aspects tend to become a problem of the present times, and neither adults nor children are protected from their harmful consequences.

Because today the children's lives are spent in front of a computer screen or in front of a television, playing sports is becoming a balancing act for us. At the same time, sport is a good reason to spend time outside the house, in nature, away from the radiation emitted by the various electronic devices we are surrounded by at all times.

*Rianna Alexandra Chivulescu, 7*

The reasons why you should buy a property in the countryside

Did you know that almost 70% of the people from Earth would prefer to live in cities? I know, I'm shocked too! I wonder what they've done all this time in their cities during quarantine! Do you remember how all the markets have been emptied in like 10 days? All those things lead me to present you 5 reasons why you should buy a property in the countryside

So, the first reason is that you can have your own crops and your own animals, so in case another world pandemic or war starts, you'll be ready and your chances to survive will be a lot higher than the people's from the urban area. And I mean it's lots of fun, playing with the animals and feeding them



The second reason is that you can have a horse or maybe even more. The horse could be of great use in many situations! Transporting? No problem! A true friendship and a partner you can play with? Again, no problem! They are very loyal and helpful. You can take a long ride through the forests and maybe even ride on the untamed hills!

The third reason is that in the countryside you have silence and if you're lucky enough, some birds will give you a free concert near your house. While, the people from the cities are being stressed and sad, you can chill in your hammock and watch the playful deer jumping in the grass. It's awesome, isn't it?



Moving on, the fourth reason is that you can make your own medicine and it will be natural, too! While you take your horse on a ride, you can stop to take a break, and you can pick up some medicinal plants. There are some plants that you can eat and you will live longer than those who eat Fast-Foods! You can make

your own mint tea by taking some water from the cold river, putting some leaves of mint and make/build a fire. I won't tell you anymore of my surviving skills, now. This is something you should discover yourself!



The final reason, the fifth one, is that you will live longer than the citizens, for sure. Like I said, at the first reason, cities are more affected by a war or a pandemic than the villages! Think about what a military leader would do... Would he launch a rocket in a little village or in a big city? I think we all know the answer...



I don't think about incoming wars, but I think that we have all learned something from the coronavirus crisis that everything unexpected can happen anytime! Like poverty, illness, economic crush... You get it! I hope my thoughts helped you make the right choice, and I hope you enjoyed reading this.

*Lazăr Rais-Cristian, 7*

Social networks – a necessary evil?

Everyone knows about social platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter and the list goes on. It's true that they offer their users numerous advantages, but maybe they are not for everyone, and before you sign up for one of them, you should also consider their disadvantages.

The main advantage of social platforms services is that you can have a global connectivity, so you can keep in touch with your family and friends if you have access to Internet. Another advantage is represented by the virtual groups, which are a reliable source of information on various topics, allowing you to share your opinions with others on everyday issues. Furthermore, if you join this democratic environment, you can manage your account as you wish. For example, you can upload your photos, announcements, or opinions for everyone to see and appreciate.

However, not everything is positive about these social networks, and there are also some disadvantages that we should consider. An important disadvantage is that if you create an account, the basic information of the user is available to everyone, so you can lose the privacy of your personal data. In addition, this kind of communication is convenient and available on all devices, so you can tend to use it most of the time. Consequently, you might forget how to use the skills you were endowed with: the real, face to face communication. Another negative point is that fake content is present on these platforms and the disadvantage is that it cannot be verified.

In conclusion, social networks are great, and they are the present and the future of everyday life, but the people who want to use one of these platforms should know that not everything is positive about these services and that there should be a balance between the real and the virtual interaction.

*Georgiana Petrovai, 10 D*

Social media

Nowadays, everyone uses social media based on popular apps like Facebook or Instagram. The advantages of these apps can't be contradicted, but still people should think about or take into consideration their disadvantages as much as the beneficial aspects.

The main advantage of social media is that you can keep in touch with your relatives or friends and you can find out the latest news about them, even though they are on the other side of the world. Another advantage is that you can follow your favourite actor's or singer's daily life, how they spend their time beyond the stage and, if you are lucky, you may find out some exclusive information. Moreover, social media can be a great source of inspiration if drawing, painting or writing is a passion of yours.

Even though there are a lot of positive aspects about these useful apps, they have some disadvantages that we should not forget. A significant disadvantage is that all apps depend of Internet connection. If your access to the Internet is suspended, you should be prepared, because social media is no longer an option. Another important disadvantage is that, media platform can be the main reason of your unaccomplished duties. It may become an addiction if you are not careful enough. Another negative point that everyone should take into account, especially children, is that the online world can be really dangerous if you are contacted by strangers. You should think twice before you trust someone.

In conclusion, social media is a great and important way of communication, now and in the future, but people should always remember the risks. If you are cautious, you can keep away the dangers of these tempting apps while benefiting of their advantages.

*Paula Ulici, 10 D*

## Literary Works

### Christmas Morning

The sun slowly rises up,  
The sky becomes light blue,  
When did the night end?  
I have no clue.

The birds start singing quietly,  
The grass is covered in snow,  
The presents are under the Christmas tree,  
Where did my cookies go?

Walking in the silence,  
Santa came last night,  
Brought me lots of presents,  
I was a good kid, right?

Opening my box,  
I found peace and love,  
A childhood I had lost,  
Just came back to me...

*Ana Chişluca, 7*

### HOME

A place filled with memories and love,  
Scented candles and a calm atmosphere,  
A place where every day begins and ends,  
A place filled with joy and delight,  
A place where parents  
See their children growing up,  
A place where you always feel loved and  
happy  
A place called "HOME".

*Niri Evelin, 7*

### Silence in the wind

Yet again, there she was, in the woods. Wondering around like a kid at an amusement park, looking around at all the rides and games, that she could discover but she never finds one. Every time she escaped into the woods, she would start looking frantically for something she could never find.

Macey wasn't the most known girl at her school, or in her town, but she had a certain look that would mark anybody who made eye contact with her even for a couple of seconds. Her gaze felt absent, as if she was missing something, on the other hand her words were so controlled, so thought out that it almost seemed like she was reading whatever she was saying.

Macey's life looks rather boring, two perfectly happy parents who have stable jobs, a family dog named Buddy and a basic American house. What exactly could be so intriguing about her life? What made Macey Callahan so desperate to uncover the truth? Whose truth was it?

The letter on her desk held all the answers.

She became the owner of this letter on Wednesday morning at 8:04 am, when she woke up and looked at her nightstand. Macey saw the letter. At first, she thought it was from her parents and she was quick to read it, but as the words left the paper and entered her mind everything she knew about herself and about life became a big question mark. The letter contained her personal thoughts that she would never tell anybody, she didn't have a journal in which she would write her deepest questions or frustrations or mundane emotions, yet it was all in this letter. Whoever put it on her nightstand knew more about her than even Macey could comprehend.

That day all she wanted to do is run, anywhere, just get away and find the answers. Macey knew what had to be done but didn't know where to start... "The woods" was what she thought, and so she went there looking. And she kept going there looking every day for a month, until the woods became the place where she felt like her life had meaning again, like before the letter.

She would often seat on a bolder inhabited by fluffy moss. The trees so tall and wide thriving off the sun rays. The little creek of fresh mountain water with fish swimming past smooth pebbles. Wildflowers that were chased away from gardens by the freeing wind. Macey wished she would get swept up and taken away to the place she needed to be at.

She scavenged around searching for clues. She became desperate to find out everything. Her thoughts, memories, emotions crowded her mind and she felt imprisoned in her mind, like she was in a labyrinth with no way out. So many voices in her head, each one stating something different.

How could she calm herself down, get her mind organized so that maybe, just maybe she could figure out where to go.

A thunderstorm was brewing just like the storm from her head. Shear panic covered her face as she looked around. She was lost. How could this be possible? She knew this forest like the back of her hand, this couldn't be possible. Where was she?

The wind picked up speed, leaves detached from the branches and were swept away. Macey fell to her knees because she was horrified. She didn't know where she was. "Why did I have to be so stupid to let a letter from who knows who change me this much? I just put myself in danger. Why did I do this to myself? Why..."

Something hit her on the head, and she turned around. And it was herself, same face but different clothes. How could this be possible?! Macey stuttered for the first time "Wh-Who are you?".

Macey's lookalike had a grin on her face "Might seem weird but hear me out, I am you" she stopped for a moment to make sure Macey was following what she was saying "believe it or not, I have been looking for you I mean myself for so long. I want to warn you about—"

Macey interrupted her lookalike "Is this some kind of sick joke? Because it is not funny, so please tell me who you truly are."

"Look Macey, I was the one who put the letter on your nightstand, and you might be wondering how I did that but it's very complicated to explain to you right now. I don't have long but listen carefully, exactly a week from today you will find out something that will change your life, don't overreact and try not to hurt anybody's feelings, mom and dad love you very much."

"And why would I listen to you?" Macey responded.

"Stop being so stubborn, I did come back from the future, to warn you about how you should react, it's nobody's fault this happened, but don't forget that mom and dad were always there for you and did the best they could. So please, I am begging to not be mad at them. I know you are wondering what sort of news could be so devastating, and I can't tell you, you need to find out by yourself." she explained.

Macey was gobsmacked to say the least "What, and am I supposed to believe you just like that? Seems weird to me..."

Macey's future self said one last thing "Find the silence in the wind".

The storm stopped and Macey found herself on the moist ground and opened her eyes slightly. But weirdly enough the forest was calm and untouched by any strong wind. She thought to herself "As if I wasn't confused enough that had to happen to me. What does *Find the silence*

*in the wind* even mean." Macey just found out that her life was about to change and was told not to overreact. What could the news be?

Macey became furious thinking her parents kept something from her. Once she got at her front door, she took a deep breath and stormed inside. "Tell me! Tell me the truth!" she shouted. Her mother quickly turned her head and then looked at her husband for reassurance, then she started talking.

"Honey, sit down, we were going to tell you this on your 17<sup>th</sup> birthday but here it is. You are a princess from the small island south of New Zealand, and we are your protectors. When you were born your life was in danger by the rebels that still control the island. Your parents asked us to run away with you, because your existence needed to be held a secret. I'm sorry honey."

"Don't call me that, your are... not... my... pa—" and she fell to her knees and started sobbing. Her parents hugged her so tight and reciting the words *We love you*. Macey then remembered what her future self had told her, and so she hugged her parents back.

Macey felt like her life was a lie and there was chaos in her mind once again, but as she looked around at her parents she found peace, she saw true love. These people raised her and gave her the perfect life that she had to ruin. But maybe she didn't.

*Hoduț Casia, 10 B*

### A half real dream

I was in my hotel room, watching a thunderstorm, far across the sea. It began quietly and with nothing visible except for some big dark clouds. There was just a soft murmur of thunder as I was watching the horizon from my balcony. Over the next few minutes, all the clouds became one, covering the sun and shadowing the view. It was peaceful for a long time.

Then came the rain, all at once and in sheets, soaking the sand, filling the sea. It was so dense that I could only see the lighting as flashes of light. Everything was rhythmic: light and shadow, noise and silence, blending into a single experience of all five senses.

In an instant, it stopped. The storm broke. The clouds came apart like curtains. A rainbow, almost violently bright, spread above and across the ocean. I could see the horizon again, and there was a boat. It needed help. The boat had been damaged by the storm and the crew was crying for help. As they approached the shore, I heard an increasingly loud sound, like a song that seemed familiar. I tried to give them a helping hand, and when we touched, I was clarified.

It had all been a dream. The thunderstorm, the boat, the people who needed help had been just a figment of my imagination. When I opened my eyes, I realized I was at home, in my bed, but the only real part was the rain. I jumped out of bed and immediately closed the window. I felt so confused and panicked, even a little sad because there was no vacation, no beach, just my boring bedroom.

I really wish that dream had been real and that I would have at least a vacation like that during the summer break. It could be a dream come true.

*Amalia Tripon, 10 D*

## Breakthrough

It was a warm day of spring. Me and my cousins were walking by the dusty road. I was like a dwarf in comparison because the planet they lived on had a smaller gravitational acceleration. Bill's noisy laughter filled the air, his egg-shaped head was bent backwards, Emily's green eyes shone with joy as she listened to my story. I don't know why they were so amused by it, it was just the story of how me and my class filled a plastic bottle with all sorts of strange cleaning solutions and food resulting in toxic gas.

Suddenly a powerful blast shakes the ground, I snap out of my fond memories of my family, and remember where I am, in a forest. "Authentication number B-254-0203-306-0563, rank: major-adjutant, conscripted in the 306<sup>th</sup> Sturm Battalion, 51<sup>st</sup> infantry division of the Kaiserreich of Sol", that's my designation. We were sent on Phikexatony to fight the Avarrian Khanate, a semi barbarian state that became the galaxy's menace in the last decade, but war formally erupted only a couple years ago in 4258.

Phikexatony is a planet with lush vegetation, mild climate, big planetary ocean and average gravitational acceleration (about 0.83 g). It had been colonised by the Avarrians 7 years ago as an effort to stop the Kaiserreich and its allies from advancing to their capital solar system, but after a tough space battle the imperial fleet prevailed and the ground invasion commenced shortly after.

As I assess the battlefield situation, a trooper stumbles back in cover, wounded. The enemy started shelling our position half an hour ago and they don't seem to stop anytime soon. A trooper wearing red arm bands dashes in the ditch the platoon was hiding in.

"I've got some ammo for you guys, and some thermal, concussive and smoke grenades" the ammunition carrier says, as he takes some metal boxes out of his backpack. As we were low on ammo this was just what we needed, 5 more minutes and we would have been left without a single round left. Good thing the forward command centre sent us more ammunition. This guy is a hero. People usually consider the carriers to be cowards, because they don't actively take part in the shooting, but I don't think that running around with 50 kilograms of explosives on your back as fighting rages all around you is something that a fearful person would do.

"Thanks, I was starting to run out of ammo" the MG-56 operator says. He is 0020, a veteran of the Iron wars, except from the platoon commander, nobody knows much about him, age, family or home planet are all a mystery to us. His loader/assistant is 7735, a rookie straight out of the Imperial Academy of Bastion. This is the first high concentration bombardment he has been in and

it doesn't take a specialist to tell that he is shell shocked. He takes an ammo box with shaking hands and wants to open it but is unable to.

It happens all too fast, shells falling down on us, machinegun fire in the distance, shouts and screams, and now, 7735 drops to the ground and removes his helmet, his vision blurry, trembling hands and a terrified look on his face.

“Put your helmet back on, trooper!” 0339, the brigade commander orders angrily; the air was breathable, so it was a problem of discipline, not one of breathing.

“Come on kid, just like you were taught at the academy, <<For emperor and country>>, right? Get a grip on yourself!” 0020 slaps him hard across the face. For a second I could see that there was a fight inside him, between the terrified boy from the agricultural world of Ysaril-II and the hardened soldier formed at the top military academy in the whole Kaiserreich, even better than the one on Sol, the one I also graduated from. In the end, discipline won, and with a hiss his helmet was back on his head, covering his face.

“Lieutenant-adjutant B-259-8698-306-7735, awaiting orders!” Suddenly a smoke screen pops up some 200 meters in front of us, 0020 and 7735 act almost immediately and start operating the heavy machinegun, with its high 1100 rounds per minute firing rate.

“Bayonets on! Prepare to use stim-infusion!” The stim-infusion is a state-of-the-art combat drug based on adrenalin, amphetamines, certain inhibitors, and catalysts. It was developed at the National Bio-Chemical laboratory on Centaury-IV, and I suspect Bill has been working on it for the past decade.

I wonder where Emily is. She joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Armour Corps and is a tank commander, what she has always wanted to do, even though everybody told her it was impossible. I hope she is doing well and is having fun.

Even more terrifying than a high concentration bombardment is an Avarrian bayonet charge. With their 2.5 meters height and enough physical force to crush a human, the average Avarrian grunt is a tough opponent on any battlefield, especially on low gravity planets.

My MgP-42 SMG doesn't have an issued bayonet, so I set it to Burst-fire and prepare the injection. It kicks in immediately and I feel nauseous for a couple of seconds, a planned effect to reduce the probability of addiction. We soon hear the Avarrian battle cry, a high-pitched scream like a horse shriek. They are not to be seen because of the smoke, but we can make out some silhouettes and we open fire, dozens of bullets piercing the air.

“Bayonet counter-charge!” Everybody dashes out of the ditch, including the ammo carrier that has not returned to the forward command centre, and shouts a loud “HUUUURAH!” The Avarrians are caught off guard, for they are not used to being on the receiving end of a bayonet charge. 0020 even took the MG-56 with him and is hip firing it while 7735 is holding the bullets. The clash is short and brutal, Avarrian corpses lie down on the warm ground, however we don't stop after we took the enemy out and rush to their defensive position. Once again, we catch them by surprise and obtain the upper hand.

I jump in their trench and end up face to face with a very big and surprised Avarrian grunt holding an assault rifle. I am faster and make short use of him in an instant. I press forward and eliminate half dozen enemies before they even realise what is happening.

But soon they regroup and counter attack, hard. Now we are beaten back and forced out of the trenches. The stim-infusion has worn out, but we won't take another shot of it unless ordered to. The situation is dire as we are out in the open with no cover except for the trench we were just forced out of. I lob a handful of thermal grenades in the trench and wait for the heat to dissipate after it cooked the Avarrians alive down there. Our group assaults the trench again.

The radio-man requested reinforcements, but right now we are all on our own until anything the HQ managed to piece together for this sudden assault arrives to tip the balance in our favour. Hopefully, we, Sturm troops, excel at close quarters combat and manage to once again regain control of this trench sector. Nonetheless, we suffered casualties of our own and are in dire need for reinforcements. The ammo carrier got some nasty bullet wounds in the upper part of his abdomen.

“Stay with me buddy, help is on the way!” I try to bandage him, but, sadly, he is already gone. I didn't know him, not even his authentication number, and I don't know why, but his death saddened me profoundly.

“0563, come here and help me with this” 7735 motions towards a light piece of artillery, his helmet smeared with red-brown blood. I am shocked for a second until he says “Oh, don't worry, it's not mine, I'm completely fine. Had to go hand-to-hand against some Avarrians.” And to think that this person was having a mental breakdown just 15 minutes ago, this is the power of the discipline, training and stim-infusion. I hear a rumbling behind me and lift my head out of the trench to see the members of the famous 12<sup>th</sup> Heavy Assault battalion, clad in their IACS (individual armoured combat suits) that have up to 310 mm of composite armour on the main chest piece. They are unstoppable behemoths of metal, not as strong as main battle tank, however just as deadly in this luxurious jungle. Behind them I could see the distinctive green-and-white suits of the combat surgeons. Up in the sky large gunships fly toward us, dozens of them, each and every one of them filled with the 47<sup>th</sup> infantry division, the division kept in reserve in case of a breakthrough.

“Are these the reserves?” 0339 asks a 12<sup>th</sup> battalion lieutenant.

“Yes, you made a breakthrough in this part of the frontline and we were able to exploit it.”

“But how? We are just a handful of men, no mechs, tanks or special equipment support.”

“You were not the only ones that assaulted this section of the enemy’s defence line, a few hours ago operation <<Baguette>> was launched on the other flank of the battlefield, 2000 km away, and the enemy is in complete disarray. Combined with your breakthrough the enemy’s main force was caught in an unexpected, even by our high command, pincer maneuver. Their defensive line has crumbled. Congratulations captain 0339, you and your brigade played an important, even though unplanned, part in this successful operation!”

0339 looks at us, battered, bruised, wounded and in pain. He removes his helmet. A tear is running down on his cheek, he has a contusion on his forehead and a bruise on his neck.

“Boys, we are going home!”

*Rareș Ileş, 11 B*

### The Stag

It was a rainy morning in November. The trees were dead, and the sky was grey. I couldn’t remember the last time when I stopped and just admired a morning like that... I couldn’t say it was something amazing but at least it was satisfying. Still, the thing that made that morning so special was... a strange one.

All the houses were sleeping at that time of the morning. I was sitting in the kitchen with a cup of tea and a book. I was in my fictional world when I heard a noise from outside. We live in a small house at the end of a forest, so, in general, it's so quiet.

I ran outside and there was a huge stag. He was on the ground and he took his last breath. I was scared and afraid to go and discover what had happened. After a few moments I decided it was time to get closer. The stag was literally dead... I felt sorry for him. He was charming and gracious even if he was dead. He looked hit by a car... but that was what I thought at first.

I walked around him and when I saw how awful it was, I started crying. How could someone do this to someone? Even it was an animal. The stag was stabbed and cut open. His stomach was on the grass and I saw something inside him.

I went to take a look and I froze. There was a gun and a photo inside. I took the gun and after I realized that I put my fingerprints on it, I started to shake...

*Rebeca Dragomir, 11 F*

### Reviews

#### Valorant

*Valorant* is a new first person shooter (FPS) and a hero shooter (same concept of a shooter except you also have abilities with cooldowns) game made by Riot Games, the same company that created the widely known MOBA (multiplayer online battle arena), *League of Legends*. The game is in its closed beta, meaning that it is not finished yet and is not available for everyone. The only way to get the game at the moment of writing this, is by watching a stream on the popular streaming platform Twitch that has the “drops enabled” tag, for a minimum of two hours, and then wait until you get a notification that you received the game.

*Valorant* is very similar to *Counter-Strike: Global Offensive* (CS: GO), another FPS made by Valve. Their similarities start from the choice of weapons that you can use to the main game mode, which in the case of *Valorant* consists of the attackers planting a bomb and the defenders defusing it. If the attackers defeat all the defenders or successfully plant and detonate the bomb, then they win, but if the defenders defeat the attackers or defuse the planted bomb then they win the round. The game ends when one of the teams has won 13 rounds in total. The game also has an economy system, receiving money for each round you play up to a maximum of 16.000, money which you can use to buy weapons, shields which reduce damage taken, and abilities.

Overall, I would say the game is quite good and a lot of fun to play with your friends, so if you get lucky and receive it, give it a shot.



*Bogdan Bîrseuan, 11 B*

ULTIMATE CUSTOM NIGHT  
A review of the game



At the beginning, you might think that you'll never be able to remember every button, but after playing it for a while, you will! Most of the animatronics are completely unique, and some are annoying, for example: Phone Guy. There are 16 total challenges and they're all hard! Every point of difficulty values 10 points, and every animatronic can get to 20 difficulty; which means that you can get to 10,000 points! That's where you're wrong. There are actually 7 secret animatronics!

Ultimate Custom Night is a Point-And-Click horror game made by Scott Cawthon. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> game in the series. This game has 50 animatronics from the rest of the series, the biggest roster ever. After picking the animatronics, you will get tongue-tied by the controls.



This game is a very fun experience and I would recommend it. And it's also free! Have fun!

*Dariu Resteman, 5*

ROBLOX

*A review of the game*

ROBLOX is a very awesome game that makes you feel good and so, you play it with joy.

First, you need to make an account that can't be hacked. The application is very secure and every child is safe on it. It has a lot of games that are very fun to play. My favourite is Work At a Pizza Place.

Also, you have your own avatar which can be dressed in whatever you want! You can make your own maps with ROBLOX STUDIO. I have it on my computer, too. You can play on your mobile, computer, laptop or tablet. It isn't very hard to play, and in time you will become an expert. All you have to do is choose a game that you like and play it with friends!

Hope you play it!



*Carina Florea-Schupler, 5*

### Peaky Blinders

“Peaky Blinders” is a TV Show set in the 1920’s, England, just after the First World War. It follows a gangster family (The Shelbys) and their ventures into the legal and illegal business. The show is set in Birmingham, a city full of working-class people, led by some corrupt officials. The main character is Tommy Shelby, the leader of the gang, played by Cillian Murphy. He is assisted in his business by his 2 brothers, John Shelby, the younger brother, played by Joe Cole, Arthurs Shelby, the older brother, played by Paul Anderson, and by his aunt Polly Gray, played by Helen McCory. The show currently has 5 seasons, with 2 or more in production.



The show starts immediately after the return of the Englishmen from the First World War, and presents us Tommy Shelby, a battle-scarred soldier that is somehow keeping his composure for his and his family’s sake, because he’s got a gang to manage! In the first episode, he sabotages the horse races and tricks people for his own gain. Tommy is a very intelligent man, and has everything planned ahead... Well, almost everything. While in a pub, he learns from a friend that a new police chief is coming to town, with ill-intent for the Peaky Blinders. At the time, they were the leading gang in their part of

Birmingham, and the major Chester Campbell wanted to change that. Another factor that influenced Major Campbell into accepting the job to come here was the fact that it was said that the Peaky Blinders stole guns from the British Government, guns that were meant to go to Libya. What actually happened was some of Tommy’s men were drunk while on a mission to steal some horses, and accidentally brought a crate full of weapons with them. Chester Campbell’s arrival was very important in the Shelby’s family rise to glory.

The first 2 seasons heavily involve Major Campbell, while showcasing the degrading state of Tommy’s mental state and increasing paranoia and suspicion of his peers. At the end of the second season, Campbell is killed by Polly Gray and that chapter of the Peaky Blinders comes to an end, with the Shelbys being one of the leading gangs from all of Birmingham. Tommy Shelby desperately wants to go legal, trying to leave behind the gangster life he once cherished, but is unable to because of his money-hungry alter-ego. He ventures into London to expand his influence, but hits a dead end when he angers the strongest gang in the city. He allies with the second most powerful gang and befriends its Jewish leader, Alfie Solomons, played by Tom Hardy. After getting over their differences and multiple backstabs from the Jewish leader, they manage to defeat the rival gang, the Shelbys becoming one of the strongest gangs in all of England. In all these years, they became a race organizer, legal gin producer and feared gangsters. Tommy Shelby even got noticed by The King and Winston Churchill, reaching a power never even thought of by other gangsters. He proceeds to do missions for His Majesty, in exchange for political favors, ranks and

more influence. While juggling between The King's requests and his personal interests, Tommy kills the father of a very important man. That man being the leader of the Italian Mafia from New York. Hearing of his father's death, Luca Changretta travels to Birmingham to avenge his father. This is Tommy Shelby's greatest challenge yet, but he manages to defeat The Mafia and becomes even stronger.

This power he earned during the years didn't do all good, because Tommy Shelby became an unrecognizable man, compared to his past self. He would only tell certain people about his plans, sometimes not even trusting his own brothers because of the amount of times he was backstabbed and betrayed. All the characters have great personalities and fleshed out ideas, never being too easily forgotten. While some subplots were dragged out a bit too much, *The Peaky Blinders* managed to remain extremely interesting, unique and grandiose, with much suspense and appeal during the first 4 seasons. Unfortunately, the show took a turn for the worst in the 5<sup>th</sup> season. Don't get me wrong, the last season currently available is good, but an undeniable downgrade from the last 4 seasons can be seen. The last season explores Tommy Shelby's life as a politician and undercover agent for the British Government. His mission is to stop the Marxist movement in Birmingham and London, but he gets involved in Fascism and prioritizes bringing down a quite influential fascist man. He manages to get close to him, forming a symbiotic relationship, realizing what kind of a man this fascist is. He describes him as sick, only caring about his own interests, lying to the people he is trying to get on his side. Tommy wants to remove this ill man from the face of the earth, planning an assassination. In probably the most suspenseful scene of the show, the assassination fails, the assassin is killed and Tommy and his brothers barely escape alive. The catch is that the fascist had no idea this happened. So they went on with the day as if nothing happened, Tommy not knowing who sabotaged his plans. At the end of the last episode, we see Tomas Shelby having a mental-breakdown over not being right for once in the last 10 years, and having no idea who could have done this to him. The last scene leaves us in a cliffhanger, showing the main character with a gun to his head, implying that he might kill himself.

In conclusion, "*Peaky Blinders*" is a wonderful, slow and somewhat dark show that is worth watching for its unbelievable story, terrific characters, formidable soundtrack and eerie atmosphere all throughout the 5 seasons.

*Coman Darian, 7*

### Dying Light – review

One of the games I've started playing during this "break", and also one of my favourite games I've played in a long while is "Dying Light", so I thought this game would be a nice subject to review.



Dying Light is an open-world-zombie-survival game that has a thrilling story and also impressive parkour elements. It takes place in the fictional town of Harran, the center of the zombie-virus' outbreak, sealed off from the outside world. So, the town is filled with zombies, along with some small communities of survivors left.

Our hero Kyle Crane, a military operative working for an organization called GRE is parachuted in Harran, with a mission, to recover sensitive data about the disease, stolen by a GRE man who has gone "wild". The action gets off to a challenging start, when Kyle gets immediately bitten by a zombie, but luckily a bunch of survivors rescue him and take him back to their safe-house. There, he is taught parkour skills, which are a very important part of the game, given that in Harran there are no other ways to travel but on foot. You're told very early in the game that noise attracts zombies, so you are meant to take a "sneaky" approach to the game (which means that guns and explosives have a huge drawback), even though it can be played in a very loud style too. The story is about Kyle's objective, to recover that important data while helping the communities with tasks such as repairing antennas and fighting many threatening creatures.

One thing this game can teach is how much the perspective means. In the later stages of the game, Kyle is learning more about himself and the actual state of the world he lives in, but the exact details remain for YOU to unveil while playing this awesome game!

In the end, I would like to give my own opinion of this game. I really appreciated the mechanics of the game, which weren't even close to perfect, but while playing this game I really felt like there was a learning curve in everything, from parkour moves to attacking enemies. I also liked the story, even though for me, the gameplay itself was more interesting and exciting. Although I enjoyed this game, I would not recommend it as a "chill" game, as in this game there is action around no matter what and it requires the player to be focused and ready for everything the game throws at him.

*Mureşan Vlad, 10 B*

## Leaving high school

It all started four years ago, when I, along with my other 29 colleagues walked inside “Ioan Slavici” National College with a feeling of uncertainty in our bodies and with a slight fear of unknown in our heads. It was odd, getting used to a new place filled with new people that were all intimidating to us, the newbies. We were lucky we were all together and we managed to survive our first couple of weeks in our new high school. Slowly but surely, we became attached to this place and we wanted to come back again and again even though some days were harder than others, and sometimes we only wanted to go home and never return. But it was our second home, the place where we met a ton of new people and where we made a lot of new friends, some of which will actually remain our friends during adulthood. We managed to tie very important relationship and we also met people who changed our perspective on certain things – our teachers.

It was a tough road, but we managed to pull through and in the end, I can say that it was all worth it, all the nights spent preparing for the next day in which the teachers had huge expectations from us and wanted to make us better people. We weren’t always the best students, we did a lot of crazy stuff but neither of us regrets these things. All of these made us stronger as a group and tied the bond we already had. For four years, we became a family and we learned to live together even though we weren’t always on the same page. Leaving high-school after four years is very hard, especially with the current situation. We are going to miss our colleagues, our teachers and we are going to miss the building itself, the yard, and the auxiliary personnel. They were all great and I’m sure I will definitely think about these years a lot and I’m sure my colleagues will do the same.

*Andrei Lung, 12 C*

Being a graduate in 2020, I can say that it is not a pleasant experience due to the pandemic that is currently taking place in our country. However, the high school years are the most beautiful years and I will miss them a lot. The friendships that have been made will remain for life, and the experiences I have had are unforgettable. It could have been a happier ending, but the memories that I have matter more.

*Helga Kuritan, 12 D*

Graphics



This picture represents my three passions: *drawing, listening to music* and *reading*.

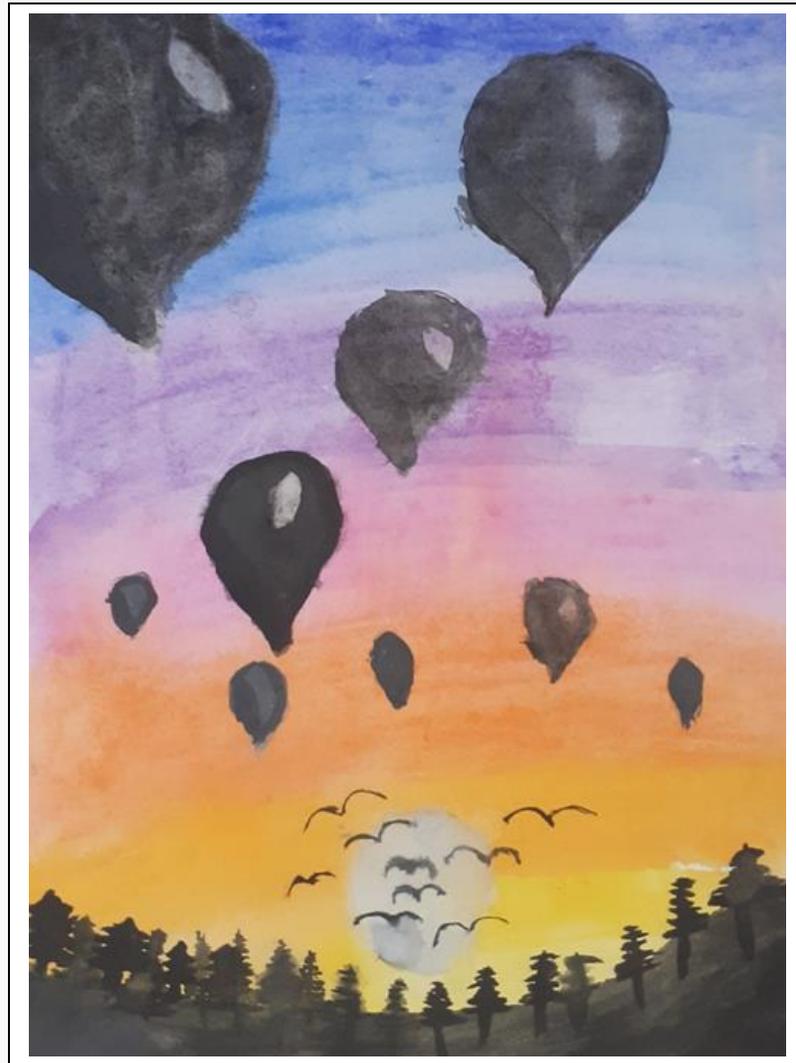
*Georgiana Dobran, 5*



*Alexandru Țăran, 5*



*Iasmina Sima, 5*





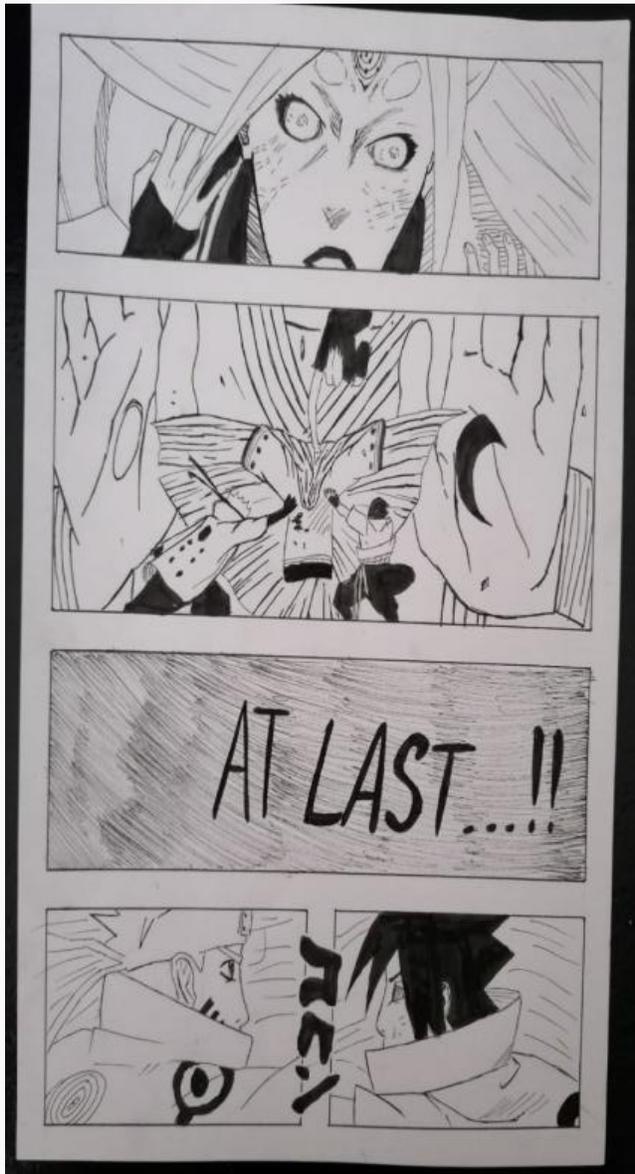
Being strong at home, alone

*Tunde Sirger, 10 B*



**To be or not to be... alone**

*Gogota Andrea, X B*



Rareş Mesaroş, 10 D





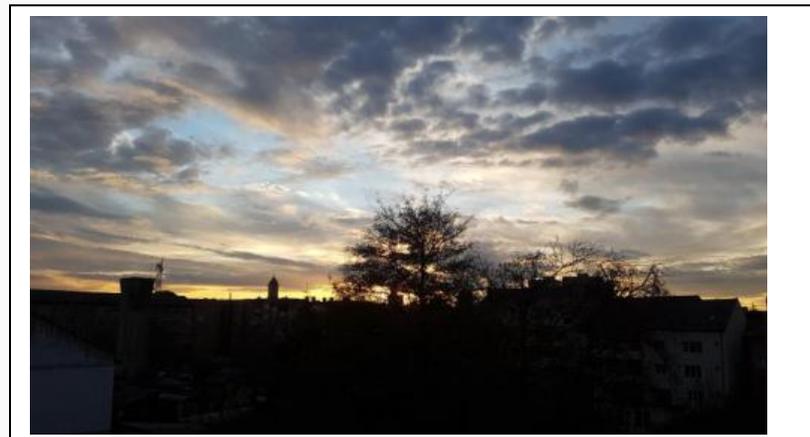
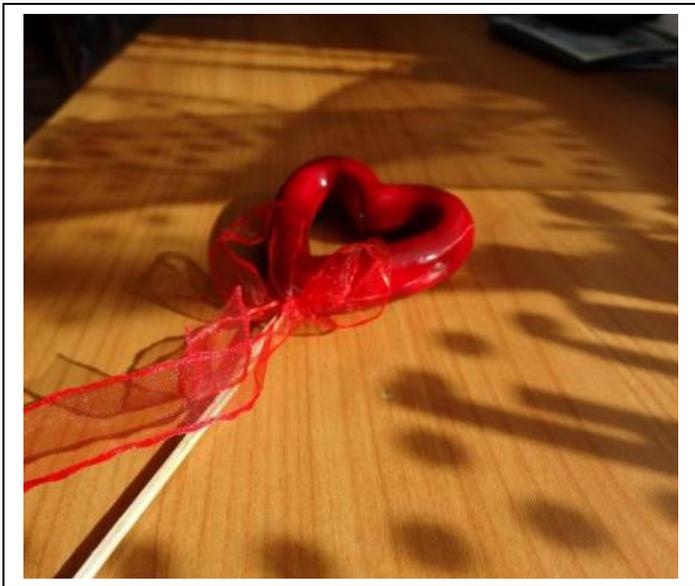
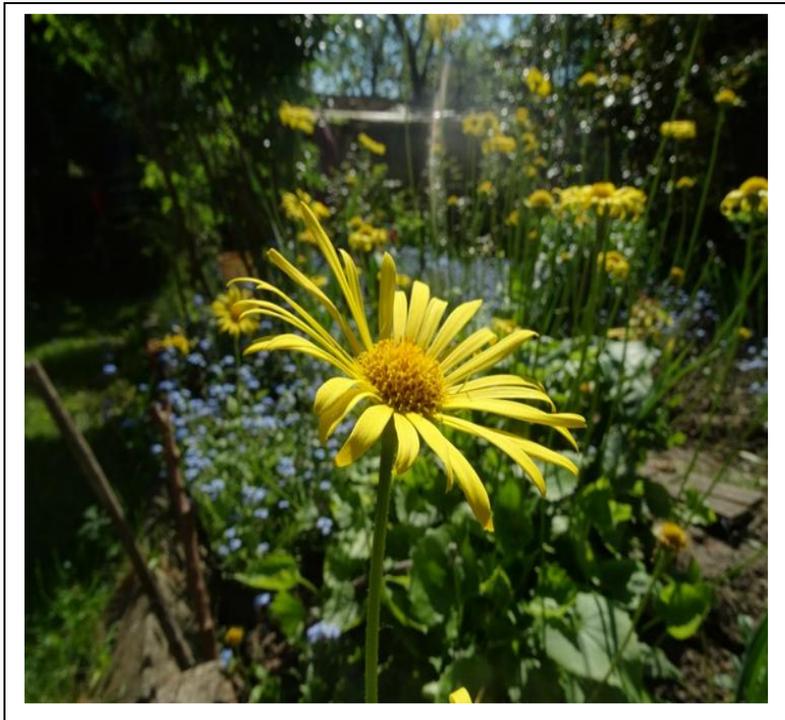
*Tribute for Kayla*

*Larisa Rus, 9 C*



*Jemma's 1.5k special DTIYS*

Photography



*Andra Cojocaru, 11 A*

Time Capsule



# ENGLISH MY LOVE

## Time Capsule



*" Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."*

Margaret Mead

### Modern Languages

French:

#### LE PETIT COVID MARCHANT DANS MA RUE...

Parce qu'il s'ennuyait, il voulait aussi jouer avec les autres. Au début, il semblait amical, mais il a commencé à se disputer avec ses amis et il est devenu un monstre.

Ses amis étaient bouleversés et ont décidé de rester dans la maison afin de ne pas revoir Covid. Covid cherche de nouveaux amis mais tout le monde est contre lui. La querelle a duré longtemps et les gens ont commencé à faire des activités seuls. C'était amusant jusqu'à ce qu'ils ont rencontré un autre mauvais être, l'ennui.

Je ne voulais rencontrer aucun d'eux, alors je suis resté à la maison et j'ai commencé à cuisiner, à dessiner, à prendre du temps pour moi et à passer beaucoup plus de temps avec ma famille. Et regardez ... je suis devenu un homme plus calme à cause de lui.

Ne laissez pas le mal s'emporter sur le bien! Soyez vous mêmes!

*Vida Antonia, 9 D*

#### Souvenirs en terminale

Récemment, à cause de la pandémie covid-19 on ne peut plus nous rendre à l'école et donc on doit faire des cours en ligne de chez nous. Les élèves de dernière année qui doivent passer le bac sont les plus touchés par la situation qui n'est pas facile à gérer.

Ils sont très stressés, car les cours en ligne ne peuvent pas être comparés aux cours donnés à l'école, et en plus ils ne sont pas aussi attentifs qu'en classe.

Je trouve que les examens auraient dû être annulés car les élèves sont atteints psychologiquement par cette situation qui n'est pas facile à gérer et ne sont donc pas en mesure de les passer normalement. Notre rythme de vie a été aussi beaucoup changé et ce n'est pas facile de rester chez soi toute la journée et suivre les cours.

Les écoles ont été fermées quand il y a eu 18 cas et maintenant qu'il y a

18 000, les écoles veulent rouvrir pour soutenir là, maintenant des épreuves du bac et je trouve que c'est un grand risque à prendre.

D'autres pays du monde entier comme la France et la Belgique ont annulé leurs examens et je pense qu'on devrait faire la même chose ici.

*Farcaş Iuliana, 12 E*

À la maison, tous confinés...

Il est venu de façon inattendue  
Il nous a pris par surprise.  
Il nous a tous enfermés dans la maison  
Nous ne pouvons pas nous en sortir.

L'école a soudainement pris fin  
Je suis parti le 11 mars.  
Professeurs, collègues, je ne les ai pas vus.  
Qui aurait pensé à ça?

C'est ta faute, COVID,  
Que nous nous ne sommes pas rencontrés.  
Le monde a tellement souffert,  
Et tout à commencer à s'arrêter.

Mais tu partiras  
Et tu nous quittera sans rien dire.  
Pour que nous reprenions la vie,  
Pour que nous rattrapions le passé.

*Farcău Rebeca, 9 B*

German:

Mein Zuhause

Mein Haus ist schön. Es hat zwei Badezimmer, drei Schlafzimmer, eine Küche und ein Wohnzimmer.

Ich bin in meinem Zimmer fast den ganzen Tag. Ich spiele auf Xbox, ich mache Ordnung, ich lese viele Bücher, ich mache Sport und auch meine Hausaufgaben. Wegen der Quarantäne muss ich viel Zeit in meinem Haus verbringen.

*Sara Lara-Maria, 7*

Elfchen

Zauberhaft  
Das Landhaus  
Begrüßt mich immer  
Ich liebe diese Landschaft  
Glück

*Rus Lazar, 7*

Elfchen

Bunt  
Die Blumen  
Sie blühen fröhlich  
Ich liege im Garten  
Frühling

*Reimer Iulia, 6*

Zu Hause (In der Quarantäne)

„Wir wollen nach Hause, wir wollen nach Huase, wir brauchen eine Pause.“

Diese waren die Wörter der Schüler eine Woche früher, bevor diese Verrücktheit begann.

Aber was hat diese Quarantäne für viele bedeutet? „Ich bin gelangweilt“, das habe ich oft gehört aber ich glaube, dass die Leute viele Dinge in dieser Periode gelernt haben.

Wieso? Wenn wir besser denken, dann kommt die Frage: „Wann hatte ich so viel Zeit für mich?“. Was ich sagen will, ist das, dass die Menschen in dieser Zeit sich selbst besser kennenlernen und ihr Leben von einem frischen und neuen Perspektiv sehen konnten. Ich, persönlich, fühle ich so, dass ich mehr über mich gelernt habe.

Aber hier kommt das schönste Teil. Wir konnten alle mehr Zeit mit unseren Familien verbringen. Ich denke, dass diese Zeit für die Schüler die dieses Jahr Schluss machen, sehr viel bedeutet hat, denn es kommt eine neue und schwierige Phase für diese junge Erwachsene.

Zeit zum Lernen. Meistens für elfte, zwölfte und achte Klassen war diese Periode effektiver um mehr und besser zu lernen.

Ich glaube, dass jeder diese Pandemie sehr unterschiedlich erlebt hatte, denn wir sind sehr andersartig, aber etwas stimmt für alle: wenn die Leute zusammen kommen werden, wird die Technologie nicht mehr so wichtig sein, wie früher. Warum? In diesen Zeiten haben die Leute verstanden, dass die Kommunikation mit der Person, neben dir viel schöner und wertvoller ist als am Handy surfen.

*Cojocariu Andra, 11 A*

### Zu Hause in der Isolierung

Vor ungefähr 2 Monaten wurde die Notsituation eingeführt. Wir alle mussten unser Leben unterbrechen, um unser Überleben zu sichern, und uns die Zeit nehmen, um zu verstehen, wie einig wir sein müssen, damit wir alle, oder so viele wie möglich diese Pandemie gut durchstehen. Selbst wenn die Quarantäne aufgehoben wurde und wir jetzt nur in Alarmbereitschaft sind, was weniger Regeln und Einschränkungen bedeutet, ist es gut zu erkennen, dass wir weiterhin vorsichtig sein müssen.

Als Neuling in dem Lyzeum, bin ich der Meinung, dass die Quarantäne meine Integration in dieser neuen Umgebung ernsthaft beeinträchtigt hat. Mir ist klar, dass es für die Schüler der letzten Klassen am schwierigsten ist, und ich schätze mich glücklich, vor dieser Krise der Menschheit die achte Klasse abgeschlossen zu haben, aber gleichzeitig wünschte ich mir, ich hätte an der neuen Schule eine vollständige Einstieg als Neuling. Wir haben Veranstaltungen wie den Wettbewerb "Dialog auf derselben Bühne" und den Abschlussball verpasst, die Schlüsselemente für die Highschool-Erfahrung eines Schülers sind.

Die tragische Wahrheit ist, dass wir uns auf die eine oder andere Weise alle nach dem Ende der Pandemie unvollständig fühlen werden. Quarantäne ist für mich jedoch keine völlig negative Sache. Ich habe mich entschlossen, den gesamten Teil des Glases zu betrachten und die gewonnene Zeit optimal zu nutzen, wie ich es bei den meisten meiner Schulkameraden gesehen habe.

Obwohl die Online-Schule nicht so praktisch erscheint als die normale Schule, ist das Plus, dass ich alles in meinem eigenen Tempo machen kann. Ich muss nicht so früh aufstehen und habe mehr Zeit, um nach zusätzlichen Informationen zu suchen und Fähigkeiten zu entwickeln, die ich normalerweise nicht hätte. Zum Beispiel beschloss ich in der zweiten Woche der Quarantäne gelangweilt, eine neue Sprache zu lernen: Italienisch. Während der Schule, mit Hausaufgaben, Freiwilligenarbeit und anderen Aktivitäten, hätte ich nicht die Zeit, etwas so Komplexes zu lernen, aber jetzt ist es viel einfacher.

## ENGLISH MY LOVE

### *Modern languages*

An einem normalen Tag wache ich auf und gehe auf den Hof, um Sport zu treiben. Danach verbinde ich mich mit dem Internet und nehme an die Online-Kursen teil. Normalerweise mache ich meine Hausaufgaben gleich danach und gehe mit meinem Hund spazieren. Ich spiele auch gerne Videospiele, da sie mir sehr helfen, mich zu konzentrieren.

Das Wichtigste scheint mir, nicht aus der Routine herauszukommen, um mich leichter an das Leben nach der Pandemie anpassen zu können und zu versuchen, auf die Menschen um uns herum aufzupassen. Man weiß nie, wie schwer es für andere Menschen ist, das Geschehene zu verarbeiten, deshalb ist es sinnvoll zu fragen. Ich glaube, dass diese Quarantäne den reinsten menschlichen Teil von jedem von uns hervorbringt, und wir dürfen dieses Gefühl der Mitabhängigkeit niemals vergessen.

*Pataki Henrietta, 9 A*

Spanish:

Mi casa

Vivo en un apartamento en el cuarto piso. Mi casa tiene dos dormitorios, un baño, una cocina, una habitación de invitados y una sala de estar.

Mi habitación está al lado del baño. En mi habitación vivo con mis conejillos de indias, que caminan donde quieren. Tengo un escritorio, una cama y una ventana. Estantes y marcos de cuadros están unidos a las paredes. Muchos libros se colocan en los estantes. Tengo muchos juguetes que guardo en la cama y muchos cuadernos y hojas de dibujo. Sobre el escritorio se colocan, al lado de mis libros y mis cuadernos, muchos maquillajes.

En la habitación de mis padres hay una televisión, una cama, armarios, una ventana y estanterías. La habitación de invitados es más grande y hay un sofá, dos sillones, un armario y una mesa. La cocina es grande y al lado de ella hay un pequeño salón donde se ubica la despensa. Hay una mesa, una esquina, dos sillas, muebles de cocina, estufa y en el pasillo con la despensa está el refrigerador. En la sala de estar está la computadora con un escritorio, una silla y muchas flores. También hay flores en la habitación de invitados.

Esta es mi casa.

*Ariana Bledea, 11 D*

Presentaciones

¡Hola! Me llamo Andrea, soy rumana, de Satu Mare. Tengo 17 años y estudio en el Colegio Nacional "Ioan Slavici". Estoy en el tercero año de escuela secundaria y mi asignatura favorita es la historia, pero me gustan también las lenguas extranjeras.

Me gusta viajar, andar por el campo, el bricolaje y ver películas. Hasta ahora, solo viajé en Europa, pero quiero viajar por Asia especialmente en Corea del Sur. Mis películas preferidas son las de aventuras y de comedia. También me gusta ver series televisivas.

Me gustaría encontrar un amigo por correspondencia con aficiones similares. :)

***Andrea Marton, 11 D***

Me llamo Ingrid y tengo 18 años. Yo vivo en Satu Mare, Rumania. Realmente me gusta leer, especialmente los libros de desarrollo personal porque me ayuda mucho a ver las cosas desde una perspectiva diferente y aprendo muchas cosas útiles de ellos. Al mismo tiempo, me gusta salir con mis amigos, me gusta caminar mucho en la naturaleza.

Y cuando me aburro me gusta maquillarme, pero también ver series. Mi serie favorita es La Casa de Papel.

***Ingrid Pastor, 11 D***

Mi nombre es Ioana y tengo 18 años. Soy de Satu Mare, Rumania y soy estudiante de 11 grado. Me gusta el cine donde suelo ir con mi mejor amigo, Martin. También me gusta montar en bicicleta, bailar y escuchar música. Me encanta leer, y mi libro favorito es "Flores para Algernon". Soy una persona amigable y me gusta conocer nuevas personas con las que puedo compartir mis aficiones.

***Ioana Raicov, 11 D***

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