

February 10, 2017



*Our mission is to help each child reach his or her full potential by providing a positive environment that fosters academic, emotional, and social growth in each student.*

Ms. Marshall's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mandarin class enjoyed an authentic Chinese "hot pot" lunch today that they learned to cook themselves. They also learned a song called the Hot Pot Song by Ramon Colon, an English as a Foreign Language teacher who has lived in China for twelve years. The music video for the song is available on youtube. Be warned, the chorus is very catchy!



February 10, 2017

## National Speech and Debate Association Competition Results:

### NSDA Results

Lincoln-Douglas Debate:

1<sup>st</sup>: Shea Hartig

2<sup>nd</sup>: Stephanie Lee

Humorous Interpretation:

3<sup>rd</sup>: Isaac Jang

Original Oratory:

5<sup>th</sup>: Michael Lee

U.S. Extemporaneous Speech:

2<sup>nd</sup>: Sally Lai

Duo:

4<sup>th</sup>: Hannah Chan and Shea Hartig

Storytelling:

3<sup>rd</sup>: Isaac Jang

Poetry Masters:

5<sup>th</sup>: Hannah Chan

### NJSDA Results

Lincoln-Douglas Debate:

1<sup>st</sup>: Cevina Hwang

2<sup>nd</sup>: Mylan Goodwin

4<sup>th</sup>: Tiffany Jung

5<sup>th</sup>: Christina Kim

Duo: 1<sup>st</sup>: Mylan Goodwin and Victoria Torres

Humorous Interpretation:

5<sup>th</sup>: Cevnina Hwang

Impromptu:

1<sup>st</sup>: Mylan Goodwin

1<sup>st</sup>: Christina Kim (Mylan and Christina were in different sections.)

4<sup>th</sup>: Maria Gregoire

Storytelling:

1<sup>st</sup>: Christina Kim

3<sup>rd</sup>: Cevina Hwang

Dramatic Interpretation:

3<sup>rd</sup>: Christina Kim

Poetry:

2<sup>nd</sup>: Zlata Vekhova

Poetry Masters:

2<sup>nd</sup>: Tiffany Jung

Prose Masters:

2<sup>nd</sup>: Cevina Hwang

3<sup>rd</sup>: Matthew Berline

Chamorro Interpretation

2<sup>nd</sup>: Victoria Torres



**Healthy**

## **Heart Walk**

By: Judy Bang (Grade 7)

Every year, Saipan International School hold this event. It is the Healthy Heart Walk and Saipan International School do it every year. On the month of February, the school celebrates this event to have time to walk together and be healthy, but to enjoy at the same time. This year, it was held on Friday, February 10, 2017. At 12:15 p.m. The students and the teachers rode on the bus and left SIS, after lunch. The Healthy Heart Walk was at Minachom Atdao, from 1:00 p.m to 2:30 p.m. Students received a paper that told about the Healthy Heart Walk information, a pledge sheet to make contributions to the Healthy Heart Walk (on the back of the information), and a Healthy Heart Walk- A-thon t-shirts order form. The students or parents who collected \$5.00 each, got 1 raffle ticket. There were some amazing prizes that were won with the tickets. Saipan International School also sold Healthy Heart Walk- A- Thon t-shirts. The t-shirt was designed by Maui in grade 12 after a contest by the students. The t-shirt cost \$13.00 each.

## Senior Shoe Challenge

By: Judy Bang (Grade 7)

I interviewed Mrs. McRoberts, the Environmental Art teacher about the Shoe Challenge.

**Q:** What is the Shoe Challenge about?

**A:** The Shoe Challenge is a contest where all the seniors had to make a pair of shoes out of cardboard.

**Q:** Why did the seniors do this challenge?

**A:** The seniors did this challenge to see who can get the most votes. There are prizes that seniors will earn in the end.

The shoes are displayed in the high school library, so other students can go vote. Also the voting takes place in the Saipan International School, Facebook page.

On the Saipan International School Facebook page, Mrs. McRoberts, the seniors' Environmental Art class teacher said the seniors have been working very hard for the Shoe Challenge. Mrs. McRoberts posted the pictures of the shoes on the Facebook page so the other people can vote too. In order to vote on the Facebook page, there are numbers next to the shoe, so people can comment the number of the shoe that they like. She also said on the Facebook page, the voting will be open until Wednesday and the winners will be announced on Thursday. Unfortunately, she said there was a tie, so she is hoping that more students will vote for the Shoe Challenge. She said she will hopefully get the result on next Tuesday.



## College Applications

By: Sakura Imaya (Grade 12)

There are thousands of different colleges, whether it's a small, big, private, public, or community college. Looking for the right college can be very hard, you have to look into what majors they offer, what sports clubs they have, how big the school is etc. It's a place that you have to stay for the next four years of your life after high school (most of the time). So to help all of you upcoming seniors maybe narrow down your future decisions, I asked my fellow seniors which college they have applied to, and why they chose that particular school.

Emily Frink: University of Southern California, because I have a lot of family living in California and I would like to live closer to them.

Jiwoo Kim: University of Hong Kong, because I want to live in the area, it is the center of global companies.

Daniel Jang: Northern Marianas College, because their educational program is good, it is on island so I can still live with my family, and it is a cheaper option.

Sung Jun Kim: Northeastern, because they have a good six year pharmacy program, and it is in the heart of Boston.

Colin Ramsey: Colorado Boulder, because it's a large school with a lot of opportunities, it has a well-respected educational program, and a lot of familiar faces.

Kye Tamm: American Musical and Dramatic Academy, because it is a performing arts school, and a lot of famous people went there.

February 10, 2017



### **P.I.C. Duck Race**

By: Arabella Loste (Grade 7)

Cancer. A group of diseases that end up killing many people. There are many different kinds of cancer such as: breast cancer, lung cancer, brain cancer, etc. There is currently no known cure for cancer at this time. But, P.I.C. (Pacific Islands Club), is hosting an event called "Duck Race for Cancer". The purpose of the event is to raise funds for cancer research. You might be asking, they race actual ducks? The answer to that question is no, they don't race live ducks. They instead use rubber ducks, and put them into the Lazy River of P.I.C., they turn on the water boosters to move the ducks along the river.

Prizes for Winning the Duck Race:

First place: \$1,000

Second place: \$500

Third place: \$200

In order to participate in the race, you are required to buy a duck for \$5 (the money goes to the research). Your duck will be placed in the river and once the event begins, they will turn the water boosters on and then the ducks will race. If you would like to participate in the P.I.C. Duck Race for Cancer, go to P.I.C. in San Antonio this Saturday (Feb. 4) at 6 pm. I personally think everyone who knows about this event should go. It's beneficial to the researchers because the money will help them be able to afford

new materials to try new cures. Please go to P.I.C. to participate in the Duck Race!



### **Ironman 70.3 Saipan**

By: Judy Bang (Grade 7)

An Ironman 70.3 is a long-distance triathlon race. First, they swim for 1.2 mile. Then they would ride the bike for 56miles. Last, the athletes need to run for 13.1 mile. The race is organized by the World Triathlon Corp. MVA is partnering with Kaizoku Fitness Club and KFC president Kiyokazu Onishi once again with organizing the event. Concepcion said that it's been several months, planning with Onishi-san, but they are pleased that they now have a date and Ironman 70.3 Saipan is confirmed. They encouraged tourism members and MVA members to join them in the worldwide event and put the Northern Marianas on the Ironman map with a great experience for the competitors. For the 2017 Ironman 70.3 World Championship in Chattanooga, TN, Ironman 70.3 Saipan will offer 30 age-qualifying slots. The swimming will be held in Pau Pau Beach, a place that is full of beauty. The coral reef acts as a barrier and protects the beach from large, strong waves. The bike course is from South of the Bird Island to Pacific Islands Club Saipan. Last, the running course will be held in Marpi. About half of the course is next to the beach which provides amazing views. Plus, the MVA will hold the XTERRA Saipan Championship on March 18, the 12<sup>th</sup> Saipan Marathon on March 25, and later in 2017 for Tagaman.



## **Donald Trump's New Executive Order: an Immigration Disorder**

By: Bella Shin (Grade 12)

On January 27th, Donald Trump released an executive order banning the immigration of citizens from seven countries—Iraq, Iran, Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Libya, and Somalia—into the U.S. The statement released by the White House claimed that this was a proactive stance simply to protect the nation from “foreign terrors” such as 9/11. This decision has caused mass chaos over the course of the week, as green-card-holders and visa-holders were detained at the airport, unable to see their families and return to their homes for their own personal belongings. What added more fuel to the fire was the fact that this order was published on Holocaust Remembrance Day. Many were outraged, entitled to their opinions about the atrocity of history repeating it itself through the justification of religion to endanger and tarnish the lives of the innocent. Others are fighting back, not with derogatory come-backs but rather factual statements that shed light on how Trump's policy does not quite reinforce or solidify what he claimed to be absolute reason. For starters, the executive order itself fails to include a single country from which radical Muslims have killed American citizens since 9/11. Trump also states that “the entry of more than 50,000 refugees in fiscal year 2017 would be detrimental” for the United States, which is less than half of what the Obama administration had said the U.S. would take. The Department of Homeland Security claimed that less than one percent of those that flew into the U.S., of the hundreds of

thousands of people, were troubled by the events taking place. The DHS also reiterated the fact that the government still holds the power to revoke visas for the sake of public safety. How could something so unconstitutional, so starkly discriminatory, and genuinely life-threatening be taking place so abruptly with laws such as the Immigration and Naturalization Act already in place? Without blatantly stating his motives, it has become clearer and clearer over the election through his countless interviews and bigoted rhetoric that he simply does not want a muslim presence in his country. He specifically targeted poor, majorly-Muslim countries, without much explanation as to what to do at this point regarding lawful permanent residents and their lives going forward. Whether this was designed to restrict the entry of terror suspects or to create a more exclusive nation, it still cannot be disputed that the terror and trauma to all immigrants has not been an “inconvenience”.



## **Animals Helping Humans**

By: Ellery Harris (Grade 6)

According to [advocacy.britannica.com](http://advocacy.britannica.com), [petcaretips.com](http://petcaretips.com), and [friendshipcircle.com](http://friendshipcircle.com) the partnership between humans and animals has been around for as long as 9,000 years; dating back to ancient Egyptian times. If you want a therapeutic animal I would recommend a dog they are the most common, but did you know that dogs aren't the only animals that can assist humans? Well guess what? Many other animals can too, such as the Capuchin monkeys. They are quick and intelligent, so they are perfect if you are paralyzed. According to [reference.com](http://reference.com) they

can turn on computers, phones, and even put CD's in the CD player! Another plus to them is that they are so small it makes them easy to take places. Another animal is the miniature pig, yes you heard correctly, the miniature pig is great with diabetic people. Like the American Mini Pig Association says on their website, they can detect low blood sugar and warn you of an oncoming seizure. They are also great with autistic kids, because they can help them vocalize and remain calm. The guinea pig is also great with autistic kids. Did you know that they increase social behaviors by just making sounds? Without knowing it, your child will just feel more open. Animalsandsociety.com did a test with nine autistic kids and the results were all about the same, all the kids connected with the guinea pig in only one week. Finally, fish are calming and relaxing to watch. They are perfect for people who have anxiety and/or panic attacks.

### **Best Places to Travel**

By: Sakura Imaya (Grade 12)

Many people love to travel, to explore new areas that they have never been to before, and learn new cultures. Unfortunately, traveling costs a lot of money, so not a lot of people get to go to a lot of places. Therefore, choosing the perfect place to travel to is very important. I looked up locations that experts from Travel and Leisure Magazine have suggested are the best places to visit, to give everyone a few options on their next big adventure. A few different places that came up were: Belfast, Northern Ireland, which is a great spot for people who are interested in bars, art, and eating delicious food. The Cambodian Islands have some of Southeast Asia's most beautiful islands. It is known as a great place for relaxation. Cape Town, South Africa, besides its amazing scenic beaches, and iconic mountains to hike up, has an amazing art scene. A more mainstream travel destination is Honolulu, Hawaii, now becoming a cultural powerhouse, is known for its amazing

beaches where people surf, snorkel, sail and more. Hawaii is a great place for people who love outdoor activities. Just two and a half hours out of Tokyo is Kanazawa, Japan. People who are interested in unique cultural experiences would enjoy this. Here, people can visit an old wooden teahouse, in a beautiful samurai residence. Where someone wants to visit, depends on what their interests are, what type of climate they prefer etc. But every location comes with a different experience. There are so many places to travel in the world, these are just a few ideas to choose from for your next adventure.

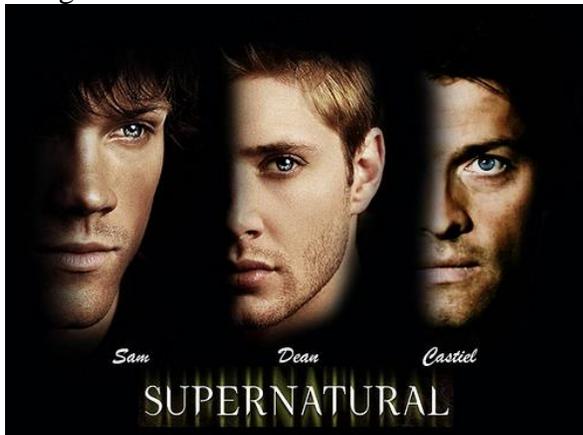


### **Dead Poets Society Movie Review**

By: Arabella Loste (Grade 7)

When you started writing poetry as a kid, you probably started with the phrase, "Roses are red, violets are blue," and when you got older, you learned about the famous poets such as: Emily Dickinson, William Shakespeare, Edgar Allen Poe, etc. Peter Weirs' film, Dead Poets Society, tells a story about a group of boys who are enrolled at Welton Academy, an all-male, elite prep school. The Welton Academy is strict, doesn't tolerate misbehavior, and is all in all, a school you wouldn't want to cause trouble in. However, the boys are surprised on the first day because of the unorthodox teaching methods of John Keating (played by Robin Williams), their new English teacher. Keating encourages his students to "make your lives extraordinary", a phrase he summarizes with the Latin expression carpe diem which means seize the day. The boys follow his advice, but they take it a bit too seriously. They learn Keating was part of the

unsanctioned Dead Poets Society, a club where Keating and his friends would sneak off campus to a cave where they would read poetry and verse, including their own compositions. Neil Perry, the protagonist, restarts the club and throughout the year, each boy tries to seize the day. But will their actions cause severe consequences? If the plot interests you, you should go check out Dead Poets Society. I really enjoyed Dead Poets Society because it made me think a lot about how sometimes you need to fight for what you want, and how you should know when to give up. Robin Williams does an excellent job in portraying John Keating, and Robert Sean Leonard also did well in portraying Neil Perry. It is quite a mature film though, so I wouldn't recommend it to all ages. I would rate it four out of five stars.



### TV Review: Supernatural

By: Nicole Huer (Grade 12)

The show notoriously known for having a gif for everything is about two brothers, Sam and Dean Winchester who try to find the demon that killed their mother over 20 years ago, and later Sam's girlfriend Jessica. In the journey they take cases fighting ghosts, demons, angels, and anything supernatural. In order to find out who killed their mother, the brothers try to find their dad who hunts the supernatural for a living, and goes missing. The brothers discover that it is a demon named Azazel who killed their mom and Jessica. In the attempt to kill Azazel, a gate opens, and many demons come out including the fallen angel Lucifer, and the king of hell, Crowley. Overall the show is great. The characterization of each character

is done in a meticulous way so that characters grow rather than change over time. The effects look realistic. They do not look like they put makeup on, but it looks like the injuries are really there. There are some funny moments in the show which puts a break to the generic serious mood, and is appealing. There are multiple themes such as family, friendship, forgiveness and redemption. This show questions the definition of faith and the difference between good and evil. Lucifer is portrayed as a normal human being, even though he is considered a devil in most societies, the portrayal is more like the pop cultural version of Lucifer where he loves God so much to the point that God was the only person that he would listen to, thus banishing him from heaven. Overall the show is great, though there is a lot of deaths to great characters.



### Game Review: Pokémon Duel

By: Nicole Huer (Grade 12)

This is a new spin-off of a franchise that has been popular for over a decade. It is a mobile free-to-play game that is available to iOS and Android users. Truth be told, this game appeared out of nowhere. It definitely did not get as much hype as Pokémon Go did last year. The game play is similar to a board game, where the player moves the pieces around to get to the goal while defending their own goal. When 2 pieces from opposing teams meet, the pieces battle, and whoever places more damage on the roulette wins the battle, and the piece that loses is knocked off

the board. The concept of the game is nice, and is a new twist to the generic RPG Pokémon game, however, there are bugs that need to get fixed such as the bug that takes the player back to the main menu in the middle of gameplay, slow loading, and even irresponsive touch controls. The other disadvantage of this game is that an internet connection is required to play the game. The game itself is addicting, but it removes the fundamental basic of Pokémon such as the strategies of what attacks to use, yet the further the player gets through the single player quests, the more complex the game strategy becomes. The graphics are impressing with the 3D figures, but it lacked when it came to the generic 2D characters. Overall, it is a fun game despite all the bugs.



### **Wayne Rooney for MVP**

By: Rintaro Miyawaki (Grade 7)

Manchester United's 31 year old Wayne Rooney broke the all-time goal scoring record. The last person who broke the record was the legendary Sir Bobby Charlton who scored 249 goals in his career with Manchester United. Rooney's record breaking goal was a very incredible goal. Manchester United was going against Stoke and was losing 1-0. It was in the 94<sup>th</sup> minute when Manchester got a free kick on the side of the keeper box. It was a really hard angle to score, but it wasn't impossible because Rooney kicked the ball and went flying to the top right corner of the goal. The crowd went wild. When the game finished, the fans were shouting Rooney's name. When he got interviewed by Sky sports he said "I have been in the club for a long time, football (soccer) is a strange game. Anything can happen and things change very quickly but I

am happy at Manchester United." Rooney is proud to have broken the united scoring record. Nike has made a soccer cleat dedicated to Rooney for the outstanding shot.

### **What did the Geckos do during Winter Break?**

After a three week break from school, SIS has started the second semester just last week. People travelled, stayed on island, volunteered, spent time with family, or worked at part time jobs. An exciting part of the break was New Year's Eve. With all the different cultures combined, everyone spent New Year's Eve in a unique way. Here are some of the places and things the Geckos were up to.

What did you do during Christmas Break and what was your favorite part?

Shea Hartig: My cousin came so I hung out with her and spent the break with her. I had babysitting duty, hung out with my friends at the beach, and my favorite part was spending Christmas day with all my friends.

Allan Lee: I was in Korea during the break and I went skiing. It was a last minute trip. Also I went on a family-friend trip to Macau and Hong Kong.

Su Jin Kim: I spent my Christmas break in Korea with my family. My favorite part was when I saw Yuri again.

How did you spend your New Years?

Shea Hartig: I had a party at the beach, so we set off fireworks at the beach, and got home early in the morning.

Sally Lai: We ate a lot of food and lit up a lot of fireworks.

Yu Byung Park: I spent New Years with my family and friends.

## Your February Playlist

By: Bella Shin (Grade 12)

It feels as if we were all planning New Years parties and writing resolutions just yesterday. How can we already be on the second month of 2017? Regardless, here are a couple of songs to soothe the anxiety of creeping college results, valentines dates, and the rest of the year.

1. *“Erase Me”*- Kid Cudi

This throwback is guaranteed to get your spirits up. Can you believe this song is seven years old? Yeah, neither can I.

2. *“Cave Me In”*- Gallant x Tablo x Eric Nam

Gallant is most famous for his single *“Gold”*, but did you know that his song was at the top of the charts in South Korea? He even performed at MAMA2016 (Mnet Asian Music Awards). His popularity has clearly brought him closer to many of the K-Pop stars with his first collaboration including Tablo and Eric Nam in this dreamy love song.

3. *“Schoolin’ Life”*- Beyoncé

This is for the high schoolers ready to graduate. This is for the middle schoolers who can’t wait to get into high school. This is for the elementary schoolers who just want some candy.

4. *“Shape of You”*- Ed Sheeran

Ed Sheeran’s new single hit the top 10 charts within minutes after it released on iTunes. Listen and see for yourself why everyone has been loving this song.

5. *“CRZY”*- Kehlani

Kehlani’s new album itself is amazing, ease into it by listening to CRZY first. It has that feel-good rhythm and is sure to be on your driving-around playlist soon.

6. *“Youth”*- Glass Animals

My personal favorite out of this playlist. Those who are into more indie music are sure to love this one. Glass Animals has an eclectic sound, but still unique nonetheless. Give this one a listen to wind down after a long day without lullabying yourself to sleep.

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## Thank you

- To all the sponsors, volunteers, parents, students and teachers that made the Healthy Heart Walk a BIG Success!
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