

The Itch is continuously in quest of new writers, contributors and ideas. If you are interested, grab Lovisa or Agnes in the corridor or e-mail agnessasson@hotmail.com. **IF YOU HAVE ANY CRITICISM, COMPLAINTS OR WOULD LIKE TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THE ITCH, CALL 099 212 11 BETWEEN 8 PM AND 9 PM ON THURSDAY 24TH.** Also, you have to travel to another European country in order to call. Eager as we are for constructive criticism, we urge to call many times, and yes, our telephone network operator has a bit strange restrictions. Don't ask.

THE ITCH BUG IS PUT AFLUTTER OF

EUROPHORIA!



Studying at an international school, I had this idea the other day and, well mostly because I can, I decided to HIJACK this issue for the benefit of it. But first, let me avow my obsession with the inexorable trans-continental juggernaut that is EUROVISION SONG CONTEST. For you extra-Europeans, this is an annual TV-broadcast music competition between the countries in Europe in which they tele-vote for each other's songs. Basically like the olympics, but with a feather boa on top. You'll also learn that an obsession with ESC is not something you readily talk aloud about because it is a tad too mainstream to be OK, yet it remains the most watched non-sporting event. And unlike sport, people vote and spend money on the basis of performance, irrespective of national belonging. **I mean: isn't that beautiful? Even unique? What offers better financial-crisis escapism or EU-crisis remedy than a pan-EUROPHORIC schlager?** (If you understood that 'europhoric' was in fact an evening paper-esc pun, then good for you (if you understood that the 'evening paper-esc' misspelling was not actually a misspelling but a subtle reference to Eurovision, then douze pointe to you (if you understood that 'douze pointe' was a less subtle reference to Eurovision, then CONGRATULATIONS, you passed the test and may now contact me for a Esc-nerd-out session asap))).

THAT SAID, COULD EVERY STUDENT PLEASE CONTACT THEIR EUROPEAN RELATIVES/ACQUAINTANCES AND FORCE THEM TO VOTE ON SWEDEN THANK YOU THE NUMBER IS 099 212 11 I REPEAT 099 212 11 THANK YOU YESYES YOU PAY LETS MOBILISE THE ENTIRE FRIGGIN CONTINENT EVERYBODY VICTORY HERE WE COME

IB2 ON EXAM SKILLS

Lovisa Sundin
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

HOW DO YOU STAY CALM DURING EXAM PERIOD? DO YOU STUDY DURING EXAM PERIOD?

Max: I do other stuff -not study.
Karl: I do 1-2 questions related to exam to get into exam mode.
Atle: Trust yourself.
Elin: I buy peppermints from Pressbyrån and be with friends.

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL DIET FOR EXAM PERIOD?

Max: Eat a good breakfast and eat a banana.
Karl: Don't be hungry. Drink an energy drink 10 minutes before the exam.
Atle: Drink a gallon of coffee.
Elin: Have sushi everyday.

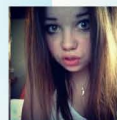
Max: A little bit.
Karl: A bit -to keep the mindset.
Atle: Yes - I revise.
Elin: Yes -a lot more than before.

WHAT WERE SOME OF YOUR THOUGHTS BEFORE ENTERING THE EXAM HALL?

Max: "It comes to an end really fast." I especially felt that way about Maths.
Karl: "Why? It has come to this. Let it be so."
Atle: I was nervous for the first one but I've been calm for the other exams.
Elin: "I'll be back next year!"

Karin Ajaelu

CONGRATULATIONS!



Freja Johansson, IB11
May 19th Lisa Johansson, NP2
May 28th



Vanessa Nacional and Winnie Sunday from SP2B, quietly chillin' in the quiet study area. Photo: Jorun Bork

3 things about IHGR we don't understand:

Why, of all places, they chose to put the 'silent study area' in a corridor?

Why the staircase on the back does not go all the way up to 5th floor? (sure, this was a filler, but there is something deeply disturbing about it)

Why, oh why, considering the technological advancement, teachers still spend 10 minutes of each class trying to make the technical equipment work? And failing to?

The National Science Programs: Taught from a more International approach?

The focal point of IHGR is its determination to be an international school. But what does this position entail, and what essential requirements define the Internationality of a school? At IHGR we have three official Programs; IB, Natural Science and Social Science. Today I would like to investigate how these courses; especially the national ones are influenced by the International environment of our school. In order to make a judgment we shall consider two factors:

Social atmosphere: At IHGR we have 350 students, all together representing more than 40 nationalities worldwide. However, 75% of these students are Swedish native speakers, or speak it fluently, naturally leading to Swedish being the most spoken language in the corridors of our school.

Academic approach: The National and Social Science Programs are specially designed to accumulate an International profile in a domestic environment. The Science Programs make use of GCSE-textbooks in almost all subjects as opposed to textbooks made according to the national program curriculum. Additionally, in subjects such as civics one is briefly introduced to Swedish parties, however deeply engaged in International issues.

The Natural and Social science program are both slightly adapted versions of the traditional Swedish science programs. IHGR is keen on establishing a bilingual atmosphere which will later encourage students to continue their studies in either Sweden or abroad.

Ebba Andersson

CULTURE OF THE WEEK

May 9th is an honourable day in Russia, known as Victory Day. On this day Russians celebrate the victory of USSR in the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945). Festive processions in honour of Victory Day are held in all hero-cities and military districts of Russia. It is also common for war veterans to go out in their parade forms and attend the processions. The nation respects this great historical event and all participants of the war.

Maxim Mokhonko, IB11



Editorial notice: another important date to remember is May 22, when Russia competes in Eurovision with this charming six-some of 80-somethings. If you think octogenarians are so, like, 1950s, then you may wish to vote 099 212 11 instead. Just sayin'.

With inspiration from their trip to the French capital, the Art & Design-group now holds an exhibition on the 2nd floor. While on the topic, we asked some students:

DO YOU THINK THE SCHOOL SHOULD FOCUS MORE ON STUDENT TRAVELS ABROAD?"



Susanna Larsson IB11 Amelie Pietilä IB12

"Yes, but they should have a motif. They should be related to a subject." "Language trips, yes, but they should be related to a subject. Other trips, not sure, subject and not only if it's related to a subject."

GO GO-CLUB!*

An exchange of pauses with Sam Holt: psychology, English and philosophy teacher and mastermind of IHGR's go club. Many are we who have walked past you this past year, wondering, but having been too shy to ask: "What's so fun about othello?"

- SH:** ...
- ME:** ...
- ME:** What I meant w-
- SH:** It's not othello. It's go.
- ME:** I see. So, could you explain a little what go is?
- SH:** Well, it's an abstract tactical board game. It is almost like chess. So is othello, to be fair, as well. But that is the only similarity.
- ME:** Also, I wonder, does your knowledge in psychology somehow come to use in go? Do you create some kinda behavioural profile of your opponent in order to predict his moves and strategies?
- SH:** No, I don't do that kind of psychology. I act like I know what I'm doing, and this can intimidate your opponent, so it is a psychological advantage - it has nothing to do with being good at the game. It is like playing poker sometimes, you bluff your opponent, look bored, when really you're very worried.
- ME:** Ok, thanks, I think we've exceeded the word count now
- SH:** Ok

Lovisa Sundin

* Attempt at pun not to be confused with "go-go club"

Wherefore art thou not speaking more SLANG?

So manz gonna write an article, aight, and it's gonna 'ave bare slang words, innit. Just for you, yeah, manz want you to learn how to speak London slang, not some naff Americanting -you get me? And it ain't hard, fam, if it was hard bare manz wouldn't be chatting it, you get me? So it's easy, nah realtalkz blad, anyone can do it, fam. Trust.

TRANSLATION: I'm going to write an article on London slang. It's easy enough, which is probably why it's as popular as it is. Keep reading, make sure to follow the upcoming articles and you'll know it all! Only... you'll have to work on your pronunciation... you've GOT to have a british accent for it to sound right. Let's kick it off with common phrases!

- | | |
|--|--|
| "You on it" - you up for it | "Realtalkz" - honestly/seriously |
| "You know best" - you know what's best for you | "Don't watch that" - don't worry/ wait and see |
| "You get me" - you know I mean | "Cut from here" - get lost/leave |
| "That's just effort man" - something that requires too much effort | "What you on" - are you crazy |

Henrietta Ajaelu

A little mnemonic to remember
099 212 11

A ZERO LIVED IN 9 SQUARE METRES.

APARTMENT PUT ABLAZE SO HE CALLED 112 BUT FAILED TO DIAL THE CORRECT FIRST DIGIT AND THEN HE TRIED TO REDIAL IT BUT HE DIDN'T MANAGE IN TIME. YES, HE DIED.

A VERY SAD AND TOUCHING MNEMONIC DEVICE IT IS.

(and no, you can't vote from Sweden. Or at least: it hasn't worked any of the times we've tried)

F.R.I.E.N.D.S

Sitting on the train, I start thinking about possible topics for my monthly Itch article. Something relevant and personal... In order to receive some inspiration, I look for ideas on my computer. Neither my power point presentation on the political and economic factors of 1920's Britain, nor my Chemistry report on salt hydrolysis seems even the slightest appealing. Having the short attention span which I acquire, I resolve to something I personally find much more entertaining; 'DVD-watching-on-my-laptop'. Whilst discretely (I think, but judging by the man sitting in front of me...not so much) mouthing the words to the forever well-known soundtrack of F.R.I.E.N.D.S, I realize the need of dedicating at least one piece of writing throughout my school years to this amazing, lifesaving invention. Seeing that it might be considered 'inappropriate' as a topic for my TOK Essay, I decide to write about them now. To start things off, I would like to inform any poor soul who hasn't followed the lives of Rachel, Monica, Phoebe, Chandler, Joey or Ross to immediately start doing so as it is never too late. For me it started as a mild fascination, later growing into a not-so-mild obsession, which thanks to my parents took a real kick-off on Christmas 2009 when my sister and I received the 'the one with all the ten seasons'. After having seen all 240 episodes at least thrice I now respond to the word 'addict' realizing that the greatest difficulty will appear the day my sister and I 'leave the nest'. Who will get what season? Who will be held responsible if one disc goes missing...I mean the last time a disc 4 disappeared, we were forced to buy a copy of that entire season just to be able to complete our collection. You understand the dilemma.

Ebba Andersson

CORRECTION: Turned out politics wasn't our brightest side. Not only did we forget to include migration minister Manar Youssef (NP2) in the administration, but we also called the Australian Mr. Hopcraft-Bengtsson 'President' when he is Prime Minister and nothing else.

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