



Rivers Chronicles

The Newspaper of Rivers International School



A SNEAK PEEK INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

IF YOU REALLY WANT
TO GET SOMETHING
DONE, THEN YOU'RE
GOING TO HAVE TO
PUT YOUR
METAPHORICAL FOOT
DOWN AND START
GETTING A MOVE ON.

PRO TIPS FROM A MASTER
PROCRASTINATOR - P.

NEW BEGINNINGS

WE'VE GOT A WEBSITE!

Check out our website at riverschronicles.wixsite.com/mysite to find more information on us, our themes, publishing dates and the previous editions.

We care very much for your feedback and opinions on the content, layout or anything else in between! On the website there is a chat box where all the comments go directly to us, or you can go to the 'contact' sub heading and send us an email. We look forward to hearing from you and hopefully you enjoy the website!

Editorial: Starting Anew

Dominique Wagemaker

I hope you all have had a great start to the new year! And if not, that it'll soon start becoming great. Personally, 2019 is a big year for me and many of the other DP 2 students. This is the year where I finally finish school and move out to another country. We started off our year with the mocks, which in some cases were a good start and in others sadly not as much. But even if the start of the new year was very tough for us or the results not to our liking, it allowed us to start the year with a good perspective of - this is where I'm currently standing and this is what I need to work on. I've been considering the future a lot lately - mainly troubled by the big question of 'what color should I decorate my dorm room with? Blue or Pink' (feel free to give me your opinion); but even through the hard questions I understand that I'm simply planning a new beginning for myself - and I'm able to decorate it entirely how I want it.

That's what brought on this newspaper's theme of new beginnings and trying to reflect back on that. The aim of the newspaper is to of course motivate the students to critically think about the themes but sadly a lot of people had their own difficult decisions to make with this new year and were busy around the time of creating the newspaper. Because of that, I left the demands for the articles very open - hence the smaller edition this time.

Throughout the articles you'll see aspects of starting anew, the origin of actually starting fresh and how your future can be written in the stars.

Whether I believe your faith has been set in stone or if it's dynamic according to your decisions doesn't necessarily matter because you are free to do whatever you may with your own life regardless of my humble opinion - but I do greatly believe in Change. In the end we are simply put here on earth as individuals, and go through life alone - so it's important to remember that you shouldn't be tied down by anything or anyone's expectations of you.

Recently the internet has exploded with the Konmari method of cleaning up your life. It works on the basis of looking at everything you own and figuring out exactly what 'sparks joy' for you and what has done you great service but is now only dragging you down. Marie Kondo believes that, in basic terms, you should be surrounded only by the things that bring you joy and make you uplifted.

This doesn't mean that you should go around and throw everything away and start living as a minimalist but that you should be aware of yourself, what you own and what is happening around you because these things shape who you are as a person.

Of Course being quite the organizational enthusiast myself, I went straight to work with the method. Granted, it is hard to do away with things that you appreciated so greatly in the past, but these things don't add value to the current you and if you hadn't thought about it for a while then who says you will in the future. I must say though, after having started out with clothes and then moved onto books and then miscellaneous items you do slightly become addicted and in the end you realize just how aware you become and really how 'light as a feather' you start to feel.

Im 18 now and I've had the honor of having moved over 7 times in my life, and just as everyone does as they age - I changed with every step I made. The only difference for me being that every time I changed I was in a completely different surrounding. Because of this I could keep reinventing myself until I became happy with who I was. Now this concept seems weird though because does the fact that I changed my core beliefs and personality every time I moved equate to the fact that I could somehow not be the 'real' me? I've been bothered by that question for quite some time and the only conclusion I have been able to make is the following - every time I changed myself it was to become a better person and to develop and adapt to my environment - and as long as I know that I am happy and I'm the person I want to be, then I can't possibly be the 'wrong' me.

So if you are currently struggling with who you are or how you want people to see you - just remember that as long as you are happy, you are exactly who you need to be regardless of what your friends, teachers or family may think of you. In the end you will be in DP 2 too and will be moving out on your own and when you reach that stage it is important to fully understand that you are an individual going through life alone and the only way to make such a life worth living is to be yourself as completely as you can be.

So go out and finish those resolutions and start the projects you've always wanted to try cause right now you've got the time and you are entirely in charge of your own changes.

So enjoy this edition and the rest of your year! And as Doctor Seuss said 'There is no one alive more youer than you'.




The top corners of the page are decorated with abstract geometric patterns. On the top left, there is a large circle surrounded by smaller dots and a cluster of lines radiating from a central point. On the top right, there is a similar cluster of lines radiating from a central point, with some lines ending in small circles. The patterns are composed of dark teal and light teal colors.

We've got a website!

RIVERSCHRONICLES.WIXSITE.COM/MYSITE

*On it you can find all of the editions, the
future themes and ideas and a contact
page and chat box for feedback or
questions.*

The bottom corners of the page are decorated with abstract geometric patterns. On the bottom left, there is a cluster of lines radiating from a central point, with some lines ending in small circles. On the bottom right, there is a large circle surrounded by smaller dots and a cluster of lines radiating from a central point. The patterns are composed of dark teal and light teal colors.

CONTENT

P. 1	PRO TIPS FROM A MASTER PROCRASTINATOR
P. 3	RIMUN UPDATE
P. 5	NEW BEGINNINGS
P. 7	BOOK CLUB
P. 9	ART - LET YOURSELF FREE
P. 10	A LETTER TO IDIOCY
P. 12	CULTURE SHOCK - JANUS, THE ROMAN GOD OF BEGINNINGS
P. 14	ART - TANGLED
P. 15	MEMBERS



Pro tips from a master Procrastinator

AENGUS SCHULTE

“New year, new me” - the fateful words spoken by many prospective optimists. I don’t know about you guys, but I never succeed in finishing a New Year’s Resolution. The only time I so much as think about my resolution is at the end of the year, when I idly reminisce on all the opportunities I had to work on it.

I don’t expect this year to be much different. On New Year’s Eve, I declared to anyone who would listen that this year, I’m going to learn how to draw - a noble claim, until you take into consideration the fact that that was last year’s resolution as well. And yet, the best thing I can do with a pencil is still sharpening it.

Now this is not to say that nobody ever finishes their resolution; I’m sure that there is an abundance of people out there who dutifully work on their year’s goal every day, week or month, and to those people go my full compliments. It’s just that the vast majority of us have better things to do, like sleeping. Or watching that new series on Netflix. Or procrastinating on studying for that maths tests.

But why is this? I mean, most of us choose nice resolutions, like learning a new skill, or losing weight, or just being a better person. So naturally, we should enjoy these; after all, they’re fun and productive. But we don’t. We think of them as tasks, that require effort, and dedication, and focus.

And we don't like doing these things. We prefer to lay back and take it easy. And that's okay. Everyone needs a break now and then. But if you really want to get something done, then you're going to have to put your metaphorical foot down and start getting a move on. In order to help you get started, here are a few tips:

1. Think about your resolution. Is this what you really want? Do you care about this enough to stay committed to it? And do you think that you are capable of doing it? It's no use promising to cycle to school every day if you live in Germany. If the answer to any one of these questions is no, you should reconsider and choose a different resolution.
2. Once you've made your mind up, think about what you'll have to do in order to complete your goal. Try to split it up into steps, if possible. If you want to improve your science grade, think about what part of it you're having trouble with, and why. Then start practising and revising for it.
3. Next, plan out your activities. This sounds suspiciously like an Individuals and Societies action plan, and that's because it is. If you really want to do this correctly, you're going to have to prepare in advance. Think about how much time you're going to need in order to accomplish your goal, and try to split that up across the year. For example, if you want to learn to play a new instrument, choose a time that suits you and play for half an hour every day. And don't let stuff like homework get in the way: make some time for yourself.
4. Have confidence in yourself. If you ever become doubtful that you can achieve your goals, or get tired of working on it, think about what you want to be by the end of the year - you might want to be fluent in a new language, or several pounds lighter than you were at the beginning of the year. If you think that you can achieve that, you will.
5. Keep a journal. This might sound a bit corny, but it's a good way of keeping track of your progress, so that you can see how far you've come. On New Year's Eve you can read it and be proud of yourself as you remember all the effort you put in through the year.

And that's it. If you really want to achieve something, give it a go. Who knows; I might even pick that pencil up...



Dear parents,

As most of you might already know, this years RIMUN has been cancelled. Following up on last years very successful MUN, we were hoping to host the second edition of our school's Model United Nations. Sadly, due to some unfortunate circumstances we had to stop the development early. Our team did great work and it breaks our hearts not to see the final product.

However unfortunate though, we will continue with new Secretary General applications for this years DP1 and MYP 5, and Deputy Secretary General Applications for the current MYP 5 and MYP 4. If you have been to a few MUN's, and you feel that you would want to give a shot at leading the organization of an MUN, feel free to contact below! Applications for other positions in the organizing committee will follow after.

<https://goo.gl/forms/fWCGrBlbDCpzP0Oc2>

Kind Regards,
The RIMUN team

If you have already applied for housing someone and would still like to follow up on having someone at that time - the Erasmus visit for the EE presentations are a week before the RIMUN dates and they are still looking for Housing. If you'd like to apply please email Mr. Damen (m.damen@riversarnhem.org) or Mrs Ensink (m.ensink@riversrnhem.org)

The Boosting Club

The boosting club is about providing **free** and **private** tutoring by and for students right here in our school.



Are you in **MYP 4/5** or in the **DP** and need help with a subject?

Or are you a **DP1** or **DP2** student willing to help fellow students out with a specific subject you're good at?

(It counts as **CAS**)

Get in contact with me:

- at this email; jonah.smans@outlook.com
- ask your teacher to contact me
- walk up to me in school

Include the subject you want help with and make sure to share your **timetable**.

Jonah Smans, the head of the boosting club

NEW BEGINNINGS

Faatimah Clarke

After an interesting (let's face it, did any of us make it out unscathed?) 2018, what better way is there to ring in the new year than a lunar eclipse?



Declared by NASA as the only total lunar eclipse of 2019, the phenomenal event will take place on January 21st UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) and it'll be no ordinary lunar eclipse. Not only will it occur when the moon is closest to Earth which classifies it as a super moon as it may appear slightly bigger, it'll also be a blood moon. Now knowing that one of the first main events of 2019 will be a 'super blood moon eclipse', doesn't that make you wonder about the astrological aspect? No? Well I'll tell you anyway.

Total lunar eclipses typically represent a resetting of emotions and cleansing of any emotional turmoil that you may have experienced in the past 6 months. This year's lunar eclipse falls in Leo, is opposite Mercury, and square Uranus.

The fact that the eclipse falls in Leo makes it all the more significant, because the eclipse energies of Leo and Aquarius cycle began back in February 2017 and now the final stage of the cycle is on its way. This means that the eclipse will bring endings and conclusions to lessons that we've been working through since 2017 so you can imagine the sense of relief and resolution that will arise.

Moon square Uranus has the ability to cause rapid mood swings and impulsivity, so you might feel rather impatient, scattered, and even restless to the point where you're on the search for something new. The restlessness may also link to an anticipated feeling or the sense that something new is coming your way. Mercury square Uranus, on the other hand, can cause nervous tension due to the unsettling feeling brought by it, so shocking news or unexpected experiences may be just around the corner.

In general, the eclipse represents a time of rebirth, the past, creations, wounds, and the simple satisfaction of letting things go - the ending of a chapter and the beginning of a new one. And so 2019 is off to soul cleansing start (despite some more negative effects of the eclipse). I highly encourage you to seek out further information based on your individual zodiac sign, because you never know what the universe may bring.



Book Club

Mirell Leskov

WHAT IS THE BOOK CLUB?

It is an extracurricular club created by some of our current DP2 students in collaboration with Mr Hordijk. Being a part of the book club is a good opportunity to show your initiative, develop new skills or enhance the ones that you already have, whilst simultaneously having fun. Anybody can find something to do in the club, as we have different tasks that need fulfillment. At the same time, other members and our supervisor, Mr. Hordijk, are always there to help and guide you if you need help or advice. For DP students, the book club is also a good opportunity for a CAS project.



WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Our group of creative and active students is currently working on establishing a proper library system so that it will be easier to borrow school books. Our second priority is to order in as many comic books and books as we can, and not just according to our preferences. We try to include as many different genres as we can whilst also taking into account what our students and teachers would like. Our third main goal is to think of a sustainable way of earning money so that we can always have a budget to buy new books and furniture, and make reading as comfortable as possible. In the future we would also like to start with Operation: Erudition, a reading club where we would read a variety of different books and have discussions about them.

WHY ARE WE DOING IT?

Our purpose is to advocate reading and make it more popular amongst students. We also put effort into creating comfortable areas for reading, as it is important to be able to relax and have a quiet place for it. If you love books and reading, then being in the book club and having a word in the way things are run regarding the books makes you feel good. You can incorporate your own ideas and thoughts, which is the best part.

If you are interested in participating in the book club or just want to share ideas of any kind then you can contact the following people:

Sander Hordijk s.hordijk@riversarnhem.org
Aengus Schulte aengus.schulte@gmail.com
Maja Balogh remespofa@gmail.com
Mirell Leskov mirell.leskov@gmail.com



AAVA MÄÄTTÄ

Let Yourself Free

Start again and
Let yourself free.



A Letter to Idiocy

Dear numbnut,
Hi there. Welcome to Rivers International School Arnhem, with emphasis on “International”. You see, we envelop a wide variety of different cultures, beliefs, and ideologies here. You’ve managed to go and offend them all by drawing a Swastika on a table.

Congratulations dumbass.

I really shouldn’t be calling it a Swastika by the way, because you somehow managed to draw it backwards. So you’ve not only pissed off everyone in the school, but you’ve done so incorrectly. I mean, really?

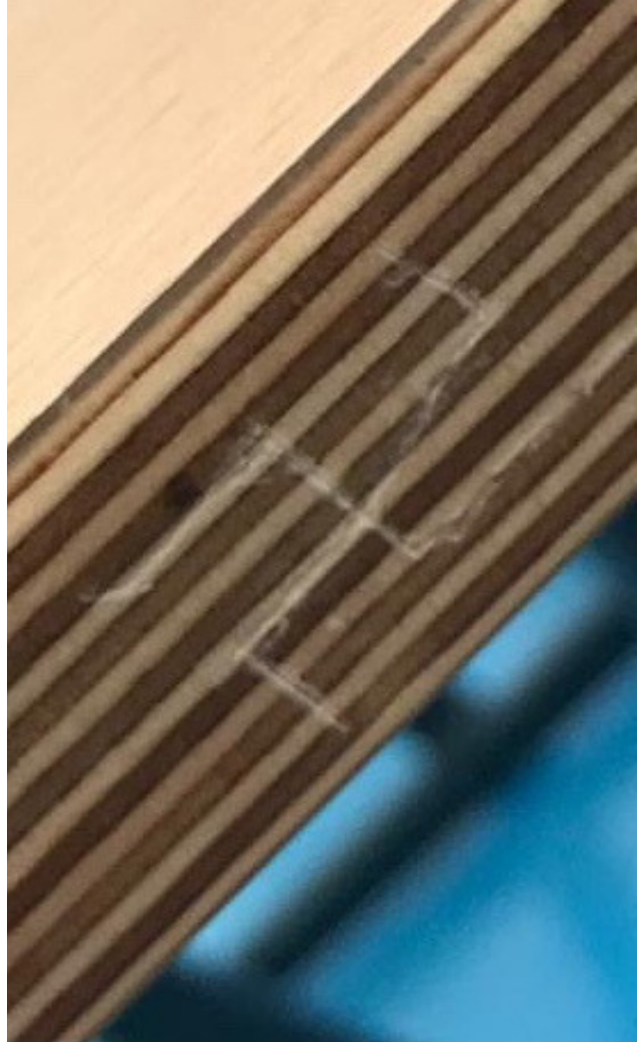
It’s bad enough to draw a symbol representing a regime that oppressed and terrorised millions of people for years in an International School of all places, but it’s even worse to try to do so and then fail spectacularly.

I’m quite interested to know as to why you felt the need to do so. Did the idea of an entire religious sect being persecuted and tortured in concentration camps make you giggle? Were you bored in class and decided to have some fun by carving a sacrilegious symbol into the table where anyone could see it? I mean, drawing male genitalia in public spaces is purely idiotic and born from one’s personal insecurities about puberty, but this is simultaneously offensive, repugnant, and sickening.

I don’t know who you are and, frankly, I don’t care. I’m not sure I want to know anyone who would do something as stupid as this. This is supposed to be a place where cultures can intermingle and learn from one another, not where silly children like you come to proliferate profane ideologies. So, to whichever dense imbecile decided to do this: it’s not funny. It’s not cool. And it’s most certainly not welcome here.

Sincerely,

The International Community



@AEDAN_S_



TECH TEAM

EVERY THURSDAY

6TH PERIOD

FLOOR 3

RUN BY **JOHN MANNION**

Culture Shock

JANUS, THE ROMAN GOD OF BEGINNINGS

By; Therese Steffensen

Welcome to 2019! It's the first month of the year, January, and everyone is starting their New Year's Resolutions that we all are most likely going to forget in about three weeks. However a new year is always the beginning change, new hopes, and new dreams.

Which is why this edition of culture shock is going to be on the Roman God Janus, God of Beginnings and Endings.



January is named after Janus, and is part of the Roman mythology, and is unique to the Romans. Even though Greek and Roman mythology often overlap and have similar gods, the Greek does not have one that mirrors Janus. In Latin, his name is spelled Ianus as there was no J in the Latin alphabet.

In Roman mythology, he was the king of a certain area of Italy named Latium. He is most often depicted having two faces, each facing in a separate direction, holding a staff in his right hand to guide travelers and a key in his left hand to open up gates. It was said that he could look in any direction without having to turn this head, knowing everything that happened or appeared around him.

He stood for any beginnings. Harvest, marriages, day, a new year, doorways. If there was a beginning to something, it was Janus that the sacrifice would be given to. The idea of time and change were prominent symbols of him, saying that one face of his could see the beginning and the other could see the end of everything. Due to being such powerful and important deity, he was often seen as a middle ground between everything, representing the uttermost peace.

Janus was often the God who received offerings first before any other God, even Jupiter. This was because he was the doorkeeper of heavens, meaning he was the route to the other Gods.

Numa

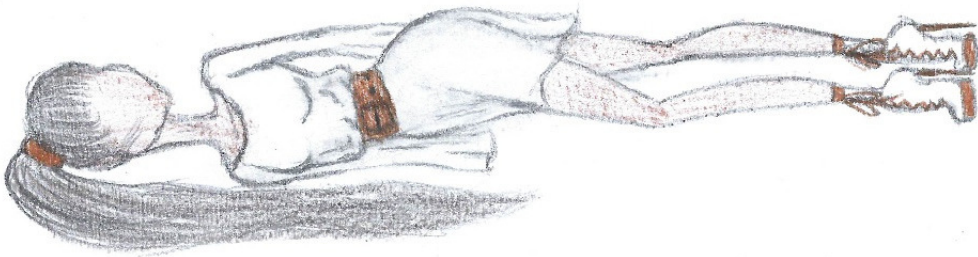
Janus came to be, when second King of Rome, Numa made the first real shrine to him, as a transition piece between peace and war, with which according to Historian Livy, he intended “an idea of peace and war, that when open it might signify that the nation was in arms when closed that all the people around were pacified.”

A statue was placed in the middle of the temple of Janus, with each of his two faces, facing the two gates on each side. Being able to see every being that enters and exit. It is said that the gates were closed for the majority of the time while Numa ruled but rarely so afterwards. It is believed that it might have been Numa who added the month of January. So, yes, it is Numa we shall thank for the beginning of each new year.

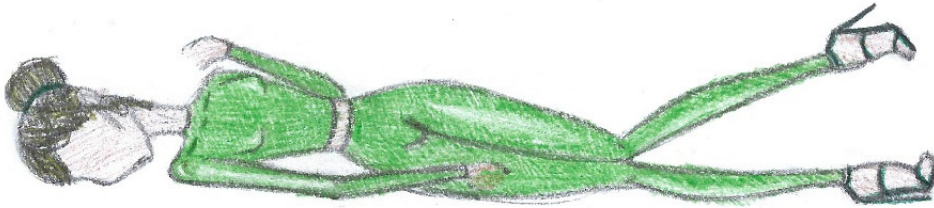
Though Janus' gates have been firmly shut for thousands of years now, a new beginning starts every January of every year and I hope that it will be a good one.

MIRELL LESKOV

Tangled Remake



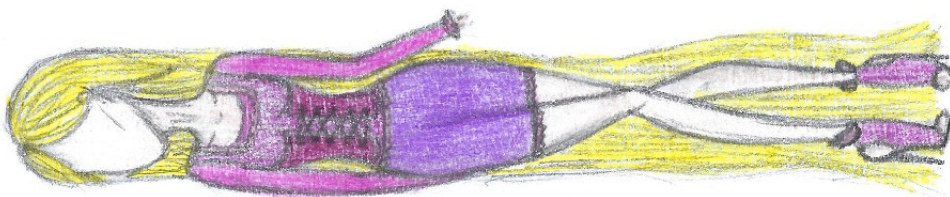
Maximus



Pascal



Flynn Rider



Rapunzel

H. M.
23.12.18

Rivers Chronicles' Members



Dominique Wagemaker, DP 2
Head of Newspaper



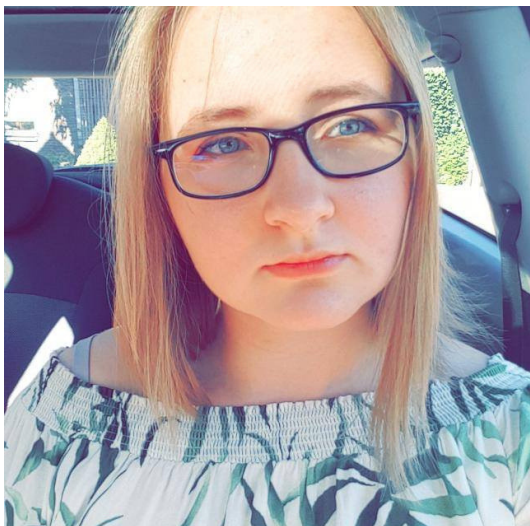
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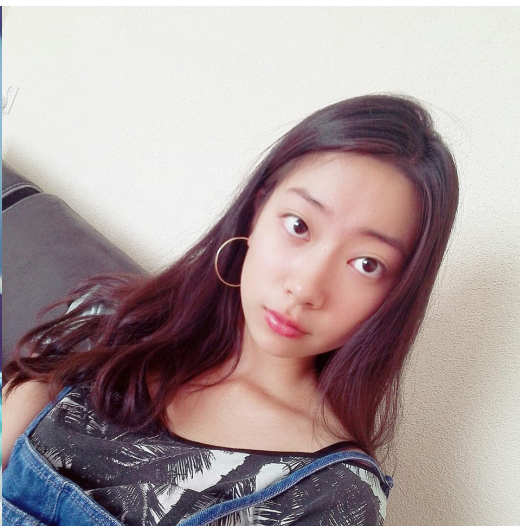
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Kaye Tsoi, MYP 4
Art & Photography



Meenal Guntuboyina, MYP 3
Journalism

Not Pictured:

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Lucy Nugent, MYP 2 - *Art*

Kata Balogh, MYP 2 - *Art*

Sarah Al Farhat, MYP 2 - *Art*

John Mannion, DP 1 - *Editor & Layout*

With Special thanks to:

Sander Hordijk