

HILLTOPPERS NEWS

The latest news and updates from St. Johnsbury Academy Jeju



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A FILM IN 48 HOURS?!

HYEONSEO PARK (G9) & YESEUNG OH (G11)

Make a film in 48 hours! From April 19th to April 21st, 33 high school students and 9 middle school students participated in the 48 hours film festival. Students were divided into 5 different teams, and each of them got various genre randomly such as buddy friend, fantasy, superhero, musical, and comedy. There was an important rule to use the same line and prop which were “Is it dead or alive?” and the “pill.”

All of the students tried their best to make great movies by themselves including writing script, filming, acting, and editing. Although sometimes they had conflicts, they learned how to cooperate with each other and resolve the

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problems step by step. This was a good experience for students to feel accomplishment and fully concentrate on their work.

For the result, even though every team made a masterpiece, the judges needed to vote for only one team. The winner team was “Replay” by “the Flu” team. As the prize, the winning team will go out for watching a movie and having dinner with Mr. G!



MUN: DIPLOMACY IN TAIWAN

LUCIA ROSSI (G9) & SARAH YOO (G9)



Middle and high schoolers in our school's MUN ASA participated in the Taiwan American School Model United Nations (TASMUN) conference on April 25th. 9 students participated in the trip, 3 of which were high schoolers. MUN, which stands for Model United Nations, is a club meant for students who are interested in speaking and learning about the United Nations. As quoted in the Tasmun Times newspaper, "The TASMUN program has not only taught us various skills related to research, public speaking, and diplomatic skills, but it also catalyzes our growth as globally conscious citizens of the international community."

For the 2019 TASMUN conference, students focused on the topic of "Sustainable Communities and Cities," where the topic was divided up into communities such as Disarmament, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the World Health Organization. Our school's MUN group represented Turkey and Spain, and each student was put into a different committee to share their ideas with many other students from around the world.

SJA students spent a total of five days in Taipei, two of which were spent in the TASMUN conference and the other three days spent exploring and touring the city to visit famous landmarks and markets. They had the opportunity to visit Taipei 101, National Palace Museum, National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Park, Shilin Night Market and more. All students definitely enjoyed the landscape, food, and culture of the city.

This amazing opportunity taught students in MUN many things such as leadership skills, responsibility, and open-mindedness while supplying them with an enjoyable time. Trips like this one may happen in the future, so students who are interested in MUN are encouraged to participate in the next school year.

GOLFING IN THE GEC: KISAC TOURNAMENT

JUNSANG PARK (G9), MINSEOK KWON (G9)



We have interviewed Heeju Cho (HC), Sung Eun Moon (SM), Yon Jun Kim (YK) who were competed with several other schools and won 1st place in boys golf and won 2nd place in girls golf. We interviewed them to inspire students who are interested in golf but are not talented at golf.

What was the hardest part of playing golf at the tournament?

HC: I think I am naturally talented at playing golf (just kidding), but to choose one obstacle, I missed several puttings. My score would probably be way better if I did well on my putt.

SM: I did not have any obstacles. This was because I have played golf for 5 years, I did not have any obstacle in an amateur golf competition.

YK: I am not an expert in golf like Sung Eun or Heeju, so I had some hard time when I miss the shot.

What was your motivation for starting golf?

HC: My grandparents and parents are almost addicted to playing golf. They are truly a huge fan of golf. Thus, it was natural for me to start playing golf since I was young. Although I don't practice a lot, or even often because I started playing golf since I was young, I do really enjoy playing golf anytime I want to.

SM: I tried to find a sport which all of our family members can enjoy, I notice that golf is the sports that all family member can enjoy.

YK: I heard that golf is important sports to us in the future, I start to play golf with my several friends every Saturday, I became interested in golf.

What is the advantage of playing golf?

HC: While playing golf, the best thing is that I can only concentrate on my ball. I recommend playing golf if there are so many things that boggle your mind.

SC: There isn't a big advantage of playing golf; however, it is still fun.

YK: I don't think there isn't an advantage in golf, but I think golf increases our concentration because we need to hit the ball thinking by the distance and we should hit the ball exactly middle of the ball.

Heeju, I heard that you are in part of the Korean Junior Golf Association Team. Do you think your own personal experience helped you?

HC: Definitely. Practicing there was my last practice before KISAC.

BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

JOON KIM (G10) & JONGHYEON YOON (G10)



The first badminton tournament was held on April 29th and April 30th in the SJA gym. On both days, the participants were assembled by 1 pm, right after lunch. We had our time to practice about thirty minutes before the actual competition started. The tournament lasted about until 6 pm.

There were ten players on the first day six on the other day. To introduce the teams, in SJA-1 Jeaguen Kim, Jeongsik Ham, Junyeong Moon were positioned to play on the single game, and teams Chaewon Lee & Jae Geun Kim, Jong Hyeon Yoon & Jungsik Ham played on the doubles games. Also, in SJA-2, Soon Hyun Hwang, Brian Jang, Hamin Yoon, Aaron Yeo, Joon Kim were assigned.

On the first day, there were both single and double games. In the tournament, SJA finished in 6th place out of 8. On the second day, there were single games. In SJA, Brian Jang currently in 10th grade, unfortunately, was stopped at 4th place. Since SJA badminton only had 3 weeks of preparation time, they weren't able to show off their full potentials, but still was able to enhance teamwork and badminton skills through the tournament. We are looking forward to furthering improvements in the future, and if possible, victory.

Brian Jang, the 4th place winner, expressed everyone's sentiments in his remarks after the tournament: "Since it was my first badminton KISAC in SJA Jeju, this season was very impressive and meaningful. I started badminton as a hobby to lose weight but lost interest afterward. I actually rested for 5 years without any practice. Nonetheless, when I was notified that there is a KISAC tournament, I was eager to participate in the game. To get ready for the tournament, I practiced with Hamin, Aaron, Jong Hyeon. I was alarmed at the news that there was a good player in KIS and NLCS, so I tried to do my best in the tournament. After a few weeks of practice, the tournaments began. My endurance and practices helped me to win the preliminary rounds. I never have realized that single games are so strenuous until this moment. Playing in the main line, I, unfortunately, lost in the third

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game. However, I could see myself developing through the game. I am looking forward to the next badminton KISAC tournament next year."

Mr. Moss, the coach for the season, also had some words to share in an interview post-tournament. The interview is as follows:

Q: How did you feel about our tourney overall?

A: I think we were a little unprepared. There were only a few chances to practice, and a month of preparation would have made the team much more competitive. By the second day, students were injured. Nevertheless, teams were supporting each other. Good community spirit. The classes went out to support. The facilities and spaces were nice to work with. Just pleased overall.

Q: Do you have any significant stories to share?

A: Jaegeun defeated the no1 in the GEC (from KISJ). Chae won Lee won the last game to go into the pool knockout. Brian won all games until the semis. Teammates proceeding to play even with injuries & exhaustion. All very impressive.

Q: Any improvements for next year?

A: We are changing the dates to match the Kisac, so there will be much more time to prepare for the next tourney. Also, we will have much more friendly matches with fellow schools.

Q: Last words, shoutouts?

A: Personally, I want to do something for KISAC as a whole next year. For this badminton tourney, it was just so impressive how the school put together all of the equipment and managed to end it well. And finally...

Go Hilltoppers!





BUSAN KISAC: BOYS' SOCCER

SEUNGWOO LEE (G9) & CHEWON HAN (G10)

On May 2nd, our SJA Jeju soccer teams participated in KISAC tournaments both in Busan and Jeju. Three teams in total took part: the varsity boys and girls teams in Busan, and the junior varsity boys team in Jeju. Our soccer teams practiced a lot during the weekdays with the coaches to be able to attain good results. Even though our teams weren't able to finish with the results that we wanted, they did their best at the league and had fun in this wonderful learning opportunity. Some students got injured while playing, but they tried to recover quickly and did their best. Our school was also home to two MVP players in the tournament: 10th grader goalkeeper Dong Geon Kim, and 9th grader Joanna Cho.

Boys coach Mr. Molnar was kind enough to allow us to hold a short interview with him in respect to this season for the boys.

"We had a very strong season, we started with 11 side games and then ended up with tournaments. Our team worked very very hard, improved so much. They worked on technical skills, athletic skills, team growing together. What we achieved, I think is incredible. (One of the best qualities of the team) was definitely team spirit. Our team supports each other, work for each other and help each other. We were a very strong team and we're looking forward to many more seasons to come," he said.

To wrap up, it was another fabulous season for all of our soccer teams and even if we weren't able to achieve our "goals", we saw a lot of growth and development and most importantly, we were able to learn from this extraordinary opportunity. As a developing team, we're looking forward to the future and many more successful years to come.



BUSAN KISAC: GIRLS' SOCCER

SEEAH KIM (G9) & HANBI KO (G9)



The SJA Girls' Soccer team consists of Seeah Kim(9) as the Captain and Midfield R, Hanbi Ko(9) as Midfield L, Beatrice Oh(11) as Midfield Center, Jennifer Jung(9) and Jian Lee(10) as Defense Sides, Joanna Cho(9) as Defense Center, YoungEn Kim(9) and Elizabeth Dauscher(11) as Forward, and SooJin You(9) as the goalkeeper.

It was mighty hot, 28° Celsius in Busan International Foreign School. (Air quality was extremely bad. → micro dust.) Next morning, we were against NLCS for the first game. Joanna made a long accurate pass connecting to Beatrice, who managed to shoot a perfect goal. Our score ended as 6:1. The next game started, and our team was very weary and tired of running all the time. We were against BIFS, and we could learn from their bonded teamwork and excellent strategy. Unluckily, we failed to score a goal... This game ended as 9:0.



For the last day, we had two games with KIS and ISB. We had to participate in penalty-shooting because our score was 0:0. Sujin, our goalkeeper was brave enough to block 2 goals from the penalty shoot, however, we lost in the penalty shoot. After this game, our team was so fired up!! Finally, we had our last game with ISB. We were improving our skills so rapidly, and even players with serious injuries ran full-time. Hanbi and Liz succeeded in scoring goals in the first half period!! We ended the game in victory, as 4:0.

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This was very challenging: Our team didn't have any sub during all the matches, so every member had to participate in the game in full time! I was very proud of each and every single player of our team for trying so hard and learning more than just soccer, teamwork, and friendship. We would never forget this experience, and we appreciate our coaches so much, Mr. Bradley and Mrs. Osborne. Although we aren't the winner of KISAC, I believe that we are the ones who earned something even more valuable than gold medals, or any prize in the world!



APRIL BOOK FAIR

ALICIA WATSON (G9) & SEOEYON JIN (G9)

The Book Fair was held for two days on April 25 ~ 26 in the library. It was made for the students, their parents, and teachers. They came to buy and look at books they want to read. The book fair was opened to make students interested in books and read the books they bought. According to the librarian, about half the books were bought and the rest of them went back to the business. Usually, fiction, newly published, and teenager books were sold. 5% of the money that students used to buy books went to our school, and the other money went back to the business.



SPIRIT WEEK

SIEUN PARK (G9) & JAEYOUN JEON (G9)

Spirit Week, an event in which all high school students participated, was held at SJA from April 29 to May 3. This event was hosted by STUCO, high school's student council, to foster the spirit of SJA students who had been weary from much stress, such as academic problems. During Spirit Week, students were allowed to freely dress according to the theme set for each day: the theme of Monday was color war; Tuesday was hoodie day; Wednesday was Athletics Day; Thursday was Twin Day, and Friday was Casual Day with a hat.

Students wore creative and attractive clothes to match the theme every day, particularly on Monday, the first day spirit week, when most of the students participated in the competition with different themes for each grade level: blue for 9th grade, gray for 10th grade, and black for 11th grade. The winner was in the 11th grade, chosen by Mr. Kriebel, and most of the 11th-grade students were dressed in black.



Moreover, the participants continued on to the days following after; students wore the school sports team's uniform or jersey of their favorite sports team on Wednesday and dressed up in similar design clothes with their friends on Thursday.

Even the teachers volunteered, and therefore, the week was an absolute success and fun to every student body and faculty member. Definitely, due to Spirit Week, everybody could enjoy themselves and look forward to more engaging, enjoyable, and entertaining forthcoming STUCO events.

UPDATES FROM MR. Z

YOUNGCHAE PARK (G10) & HEEJU CHO (G11)

We interviewed Mr. Zienchuck about some college information and the upcoming college events that happened at our school. It has been a great opportunity for all students to get to know about colleges. For some of the students who haven't participated, and for the students who want to know more about colleges, Mr. Zienchuck provided more information as shown on the following page.

On April 29th, during lunchtime, Washington University in St. Louis came to explain about their school. Can you explain more about it?

There were about 30 students who attended to learn about the university and how to prepare for the applications. What was interesting was that in this university SAT scores are optional. However, everyone has to take a language test.

What kind of language test do they have to take? Would it be TOEFL?

That's the other interesting part! Many of the universities are moving away from TOEFL tests. Instead, they are using Duolingo.

Duolingo? Could you explain more about it?

The Duolingo is an app designed to take the language test. It is a test that you could take at home which makes it more comfortable. Also, it is cheaper than the TOEFL, so you could take it more easily. I have also talked with the University of Hawaii and they are also using Duolingo.

That is interesting! Is there any other information you gathered?

I have also talked with the US embassy about US education and the opportunity for Korean students. They are helping the Korean students to prepare and apply for universities in America. They are also helping out with getting a student visa. Further information will be shared with the students going into their senior year.

Are there any more universities that will be coming to share information?

Hong Kong University will come later in May and it will be the final University for this year. Around 20 universities have visited our school over this year!

That's Great! Is there anything else you want to say?

It has been a great start in understanding the process of universities this year. It has been a big year in promoting SJA Jeju to universities. I hope that it can be a great opportunity for our first upcoming graduates in 2020.



WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS VISITED CAMPS ON APRIL 29TH, 2019 DURING LUNCH.



HONG KONG UNIVERSITY WILL VISIT ON MAY 27TH, 2019 DURING LUNCH.

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY ON SEXUAL EDUCATION

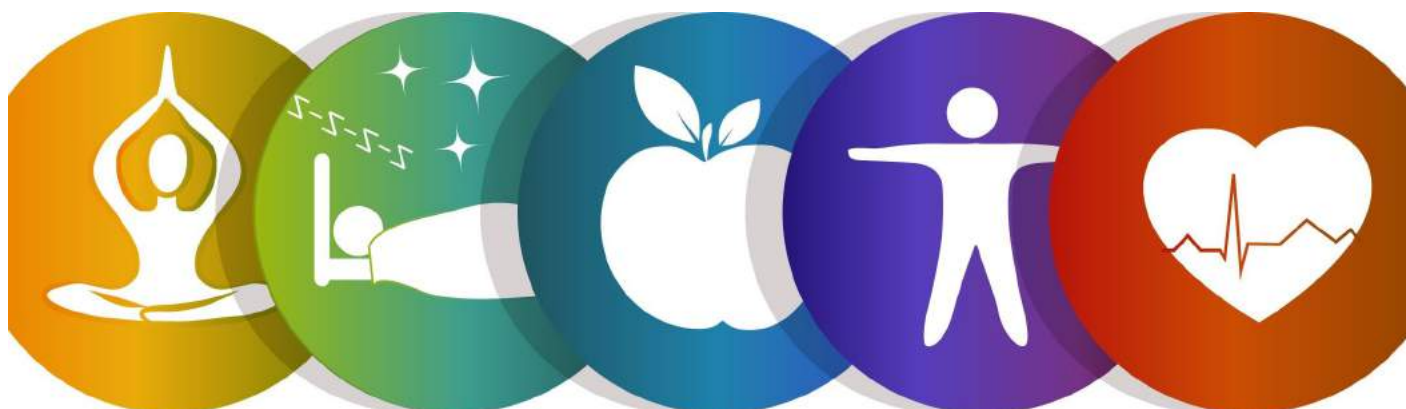
KYUHYEON CHO (G11)

As the world grows as a mature community, people's knowledge of sex is a requirement these days. Sex Education is growing as a part of necessary education as it is nearly impossible to live a life without relationships, sex, and etc. This is not the only reason sex education is needed. Sexual issues are emerging. There are a lot of serious sexual crimes such as rape happening in the world, as well as relatively smaller crimes like sexual harassments. Furthermore, as the internet develops, the path of encountering pornography is getting easier. Pornography is illegal in some countries, and some are not. But, it is obvious that pornography is dangerous in many ways - as it is the easiest way to meet sex, it might be the first way people meet sex. Usually, pornography is made more intense than real sex, to attract the viewers. This educates sex to people in a wrong way, and let them keep a wrong sexual awareness.

Adolescents, as they grow, they get further interested in sex. They are often fascinated about it and get addicted to pornography. This is why sex education for adolescents are needed. They are the future adults, who will lead the future society. For a sexually mature society in the future, adolescents need to be wisely educated. Recently, the "Burning Sun Scandals" happened. This was a sex scandal in a club in Seoul called "Burning Sun". There were a list of celebrities involved, and serious criminals such as sex tapes were revealed. The spotlight didn't emphasize just the criminal, but also the necessity of "correct" sex education. Following this, St. Johnsbury Jeju also conducted a sex education assembly.

The sex education assembly of high school was conducted on April 17, Wednesday. Grade levels were split into G9/G10&G11, and male/female students were split into the PAC and the Mini PAC. The school invited professional sex educators from "Aosung", which is a professional sex education company. The company is known for its quality of sex education, book, as well as their youtube channel.

The session started with basic sexual facts - which is about biological analysis of human body and sex. Students learned the correct terms for the parts of the body. Next on was about the biological process of sex. The physical reactions that the human body experiences from sex, such as pregnancy were educated. Along with this, students learned about contraception, which is certainly important. Some students who volunteered had an opportunity to try the methods by themselves - applying condoms to a model of male genitalia. The students also had time to learn of the body of another gender. For example, male students learned of women periods. This led to the understanding of another gender and respecting them. Following the recent flow in society, the right/wrong behaviors, and information about sexual crimes were a very important part of the session as well.



FEATURE ARTICLE: JEJU'S GLOBAL EDUCATION CITY

JIUNG CHOI, GRADE 11

In Korea, there are around 24 education cities in places like Busan, Seoul, Songdo, Jeju, etc. Jeju's Global Education City (GEC), which is located on Jeju Island, is one of them and it is about 40 minutes away from Jeju International Airport. In the GEC, there are 4 international schools. These 4 schools include St. Johnsbury Academy (SJA), Korea International School (KIS), Branksome Hall Asia (BHA), and North London Collegiate School Jeju (NLCS). While SJA and KIS follow the American education system which is Advanced Placement (AP) program based, BHA and NLCS follow the British education system which is based on the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. I personally think that these 4 schools are well-balanced, and therefore GEC provides the best educational environment for students. However, since this place is located in the countryside, it is hard to say that this is a convenient place for living. I would definitely recommend GEC for students who are willing to study English and experience life with foreigners in advance, but I would not recommend this place for people who are very active and like to enjoy entertainment in cities. As a resident of GEC, let me introduce some unique factors in my neighborhood.



Since GEC has 4 different international schools and each school has its own unique features, it will be a really good opportunity for students who want to prepare for colleges overseas but do not want to go abroad from their secondary school years. Moreover, because it does not have many facilities around, it is good for students to focus and study and not getting distracted by other entertaining facilities like PC rooms, department stores, game rooms or movie theatres. On the other hand, there are also some downsides as well. Since GEC is located in the countryside, the traffic facilities are inconvenient. That's why the majority of people have their own cars in this town. Moreover, there are just a few restaurants, grocery stores, stores, etc so it is not so convenient for living. People have to drive at least 30 minutes away in order to get to the city side where there are stores. Another unique feature of GEC is that it has a high population of foreigners. Most of the foreigners are teachers from the 4 different international schools or the children of them. There are not many foreign students in high school, but there are many students in elementary school because most of these foreign children are at a young age.

There are around 22,988 people currently living in GEC. Almost more than half of this population are students and the rest of the population can be divided into school teachers, private academic institution teachers, restaurant workers, cafe clerks, etc. The major age group of this town is in the age range from 5 to 18. This is because most of them are students from kindergarten to high school. Another majority age group can be said to be those from age 35 to 50 because a large number of the parents of these children live together here in GEC. I assume that most of the stores in the commercial area of this town are formed based on these population statistics. Out of the very few restaurants and cafes in this town, I personally think that the best is BBQ and Starbucks. BBQ is a restaurant where they serve fried chicken and most people regardless of their nationality love to eat chicken. Also, this store is located near the two schools KIS and BHA so many students often go here after school or during the weekend to

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enjoy a meal with their friends or families. Starbucks is another place always crowded and full of people. I would say that Starbucks would be the most popular coffee chain globally without a doubt so many neighbors and visitors tend to visit Starbucks whenever they crave coffee here. There are some other small private cafes in town, but Starbucks seems to be the most commonly well-known cafe so people often go here to enjoy their drink. Other than restaurants and cafes, private education centers (a.k.a. hagwons) and convenience stores also prevail in GEC. During the weekend or after school, many students go to these centers to study SAT, art, language, music and other subjects to prepare for college. And convenience stores are almost a necessity for these students to have a quick snack or meal in between these hagwon schedules.

As I mentioned in the introduction, GEC doesn't have any theaters, gaming rooms or pc rooms, department stores, or any large supermarkets nearby. If I were a merchant, I would open a big supermarket in GEC. In order to get to a large scale supermarket like E-mart (the Korean version of Wal-mart), people have to drive for at least 30 minutes to get to the nearby city Seogwipo. But if there is a supermarket in town, it will be very convenient for people to pick up groceries or buy any gadgets. Since there are a lot of parents who live in GEC with their children, the parents would need lots of daily food items. Most convenience stores do also hold small groceries these days, but the food types that they provide are very limited and the price is also very high compared to bigger supermarkets. So for parents who are willing to cook healthy meals daily, I would like to open a large scale supermarket in GEC.

To conclude, GEC has its own unique features and its own pros and cons. Currently, I am living in GEC and I am very optimistic about living here. However, I wish that there will be more stores and restaurants in town or even just nearby so that students can enjoy lots of different foods and don't have to go too far in their free time. I notice these days that many students are planning to come to our GEC to experience a pre-international-student-life before studying abroad. Come visit our town before moving in and check if this unique environment suits you well!



CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS IN PHOTOS

Our classrooms are always full of fun and learning. Below are photos from SJA teachers showing the active learning occurring in their classrooms. Check out more on Instagram by following the school account @SJA_Jeju or following the hashtag #sja_jeju



GETTING MESSY

Ms. Emerson's art class worked with 3D art this month, and many students had their first experience throwing on the wheel!
@ms.emerson_art



HEADING "HOME"

During a special assembly, Mr. Kriebel announced the five students who will be attending the home school in Vermont for our annual exchange. Congratulations all! Enjoy Vermont!



A BIG THANK YOU

May is a time to appreciate teachers in both the US and Korea, so our wonderful Parents' Association put together a well-appreciated treat for the teachers.



FROM OUT OF WOOD

STE@M continued their exploration with constructing model houses out of pieces of wood. There are some amazing creations being built, and we can't wait to see the final products!



FUN IN GOTJAWAL

Members of a student-created club that works with the local community to keep the Gotjawal Forest clean and beautiful put on a fundraising event last weekend featuring arts and crafts, face painting, and a performance by the student ensemble, Sonos. What a great event!



COMMUNITY WITH DYE

The Elementary, Middle, and High School departments put on a community building activity with the faculty this week through the medium of tie-dye. Dr. Toscano, our Head of School, also joined in the fun. @ms.tromp_artroom