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MONTHLY THEME: FAMILY, CHILDHOOD, AND NOSTALGIA SCRIBBLED

Issue 18

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BIG WAVE SURFING: PUSHING THE LIMITS

Whether you like it or not, sports are a huge part of our lives. We watch them on TV, play them during P.E. class or even on weekends and after school. But those sports that you play, like basketball or baseball or soccer, are so basic. There are so many unusual and amusing sports out there that you've never even heard about.



By **LISAKO SUMI**
H1-8

What pops into your mind when you hear the word surfing? Blonde sunburnt guys laying out on the warm beach chilling and catching some waves? Well, that's what most people do, but there are always people who push the limits of what humans can do, and in this case, they are big wave surfers.



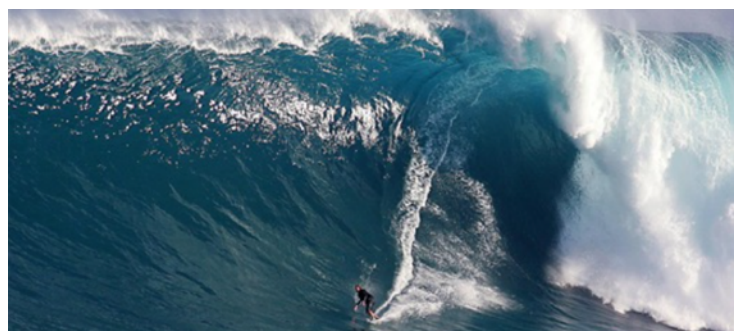
Big wave surfing is the ultimate celebration of extreme surfing. They risk

their lives everyday to chase humongous deadly waves, all over the world. As soon as they hear that there will be a massive swell somewhere, they drop everything they're doing and hop onto a plane. Waimea bay in Hawaii, Teahupoo in Tahiti, Nazaré in Brazil and Mavericks in San Francisco are meccas for big wave surfing. Making a slight error or not having the right equipment and safety crew in spots like these can kill the most experienced surfers in a mere second. Riding water giants is, above all, an extreme physical challenge. Every big wave surfer has to go through rigorous training to strengthen their mind and body to survive worst case scenarios such as wiping out

(falling off your board/wave) because there are so many things that can go wrong when you are caught inside a wave.

Physical schemes in big wave surfing usually focus on breath training. This helps to improve lung capacity so that surfers can keep calm through wipeouts, when surfers can be held down and tumbled around in the water for over three minutes. They also need to be able to prepare themselves mentally to control their fears, so that they don't have panic attacks. Other than the obvious danger of drowning, there are many other serious health hazards. In many spots that produce good waves, the ocean floor is very shallow where surfers can be slammed onto the hard seabed or sharp coral reefs. Despite all the risks that they take to pursue this risky

career, being a big wave surfer does not pay the bills. Other normal successful surfers who compete on world tours are normally rewarded and sponsored by big companies; but because big wave surfing is a minor category within surfing, they have to work part time jobs to continue this sport unless they are the best in the world. Nevertheless, many big wave surfers still choose to risk everything to pursue what they're really passionate about. Laird Hamilton, the hero of big wave surfing says, "When you understand the energy that's packed into a big wave and you see one coming... there's very few things that you will do on this planet that demand the kind of attention that that demands. There's just nothing like it. It's magic."



STUDENT VOICES:

On Scribbled, we always interview and survey teachers. But what about the students? They are a fundamental part of our International Course, and their stories deserve to be heard too! With this in mind, we decided to make a “Student Voices” section, where students write about a particular topic in each issue. Here, you may learn a thing or two about your classmates, kouhais, or senpais that you never knew about.

What was the worst thing you did as a kid?

There are no such things as bad kids or good kids in this world. They are all angelic gifts from God, who are capable of doing devilish things. I am sure that a quick inquiry to your mother will leave you with a very, very long list of wicked and splendidly stupid deeds you have done in the past. Here, for our first ever student voice corner, we asked a few students from the International Course about the worst thing they did as a child.

By **SAKURA OKAWA**
H1-8

When I was in second grade, and my brother was four years old, we caused a big incident. We were fooling around in a room at our house and I closed the door, which was made of glass.

He kicked the door again and again because I would not open it. The strength of his kick was getting more and more powerful, with the increase of his annoyance.

Finally, his foot crashed through the glass door. So much blood spread from his sole, and a lot of thick segments of glass pierced his foot.

We went to a hospital quickly and he had many stitches. He struggled violently because the treatment was too painful for a four year old boy. I knew that I was not supposed to, but I was not able to help myself from laughing at his

intense reaction to the treatment. To this day, I still think it was very funny.

By **MIYA BELLAMY**
H1-8

When I was in first grade of elementary school, we had a day where we told the class our talents and hobbies (kind of like a “show and tell”). At that time, sign language was very popular. Some teachers even considered making a sign language club. So when

my turn came along, the young, immature, first grade me said “I can do sign language!” *face palm*

My teacher became so interested in my talent that she asked me to translate a song we were learning in class with sign language. I was totally out of my depth. I ended up just making up weird, random moves with my fingers/arms.

THEMED SURVEY: SIBLING PROBLEMS

#Older Sibling problems

- Being told to “set an example”.
- Being treated like an adult.
- Having a lot of responsibility from a young age.
- Getting the blame.
- The younger ones get everything quicker.

#Younger Sibling problems

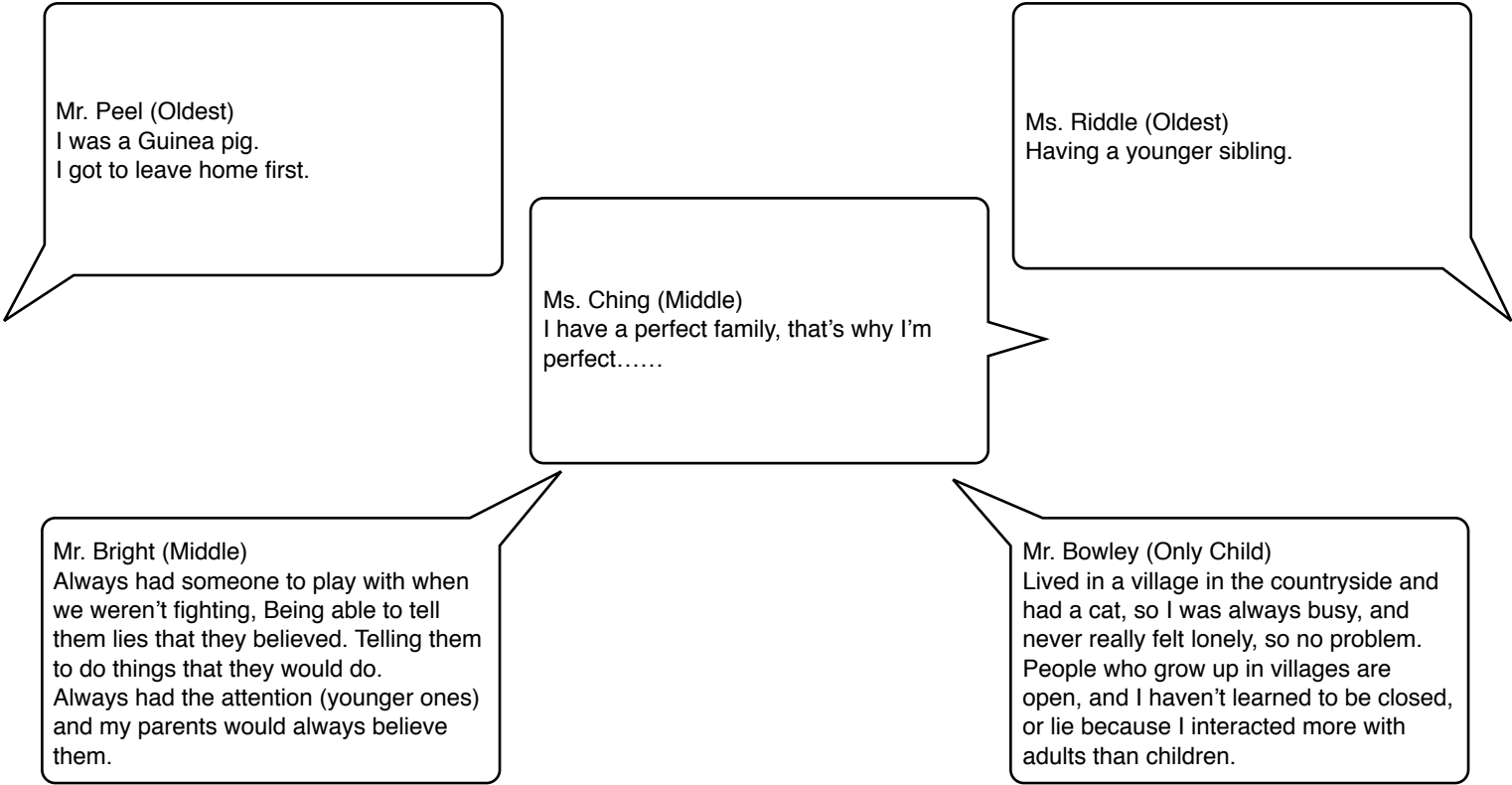
- Pressure to live up to the older sibling.
- Hand me down clothes.
- No more money left?
- Babied.

#Middle Sibling problems

- The youngest and oldest become best friends and you have to stay with your parents.
- No videos or albums from your childhood.
- Sometimes invisible.

Here are what some of the teachers thought about the issue.....

What was something good and something bad about being an ____ child, in chronological order:



INTRODUCING: 360° SCIENCE

It's our 5th year of Scribbled, and as you may have realized, we are adding many changes to make it better than ever before. One of the problems we had was that it was very humanities-biased with all the writing, and the lack of "science-ness" was notable. But as we are living in the age of scientific development, we cannot possibly leave it that way. Therefore, starting this issue, we would like to introduce you to "360° Science", where we talk all about the science that affects our lives. Sorry for the wait; this is for all the science peeps out there!

TYPEWRITERS

By **RAPHAEL
METHNER**
M2-8 AG

Today, most of us use computers in our daily lives to perform a variety of tasks. The Internet is one of the main reasons we use computers, but another important function is creating documents. This article was created on a computer and you may even be reading it on one. But what did people use before computers?



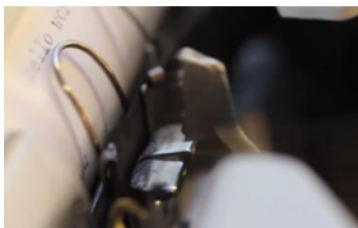
Before the first commercially-available personal computers appeared in the 1970s, people often used typewriters to write

letters, articles and even books.

Although there is no screen, you can see that it bears some similarity to a modern computer. In fact, computer keyboards are based on the typewriter.

So how do typewriters work?

It is actually quite simple: they work like a stamp. You will notice that the keys on a typewriter are raised, much higher than on a computer keyboard. Each key is attached to a metal arm with a letter, which moves when you strike the key and hits a ribbon in front of the paper. The ribbon contains ink, so when it hits the paper the letters are printed.



Typewriters were first invented in the 1860s and spread rapidly through the 1900s. The first typewriter keyboards were actually in alphabetical order, but were soon changed to the 'Qwerty' order to slow down the typists who were jamming the typewriters. Typewriters became the most common machine to create documents and were used worldwide throughout the 20th century.

Although it was a very useful machine, it was quite a challenge to actually use a typewriter. One problem was that there was no way to delete or alter misspelled or mistyped words. Therefore, many people who used typewriters in their jobs had to redo entire documents.

To solve this problem, in the mid-20th century, the electric typewriter was invented.

Electric typewriters had the ability to replace any misspelled words and they



would automatically go to the next line when you hit the return key. They were also much quieter than the original typewriters.

Towards the end of the 20th century, computers were invented and people found that they were faster and more accurate, so typewriters were gradually replaced.

Who knows what the computer of the future will look like? Perhaps we will look back on the MacBook and as being as old-fashioned as a typewriter.

THE QWERTY EFFECT

Co-Written By
**FUMA UEDA and
ALEX T. RYAN**
M3-7 AG

If you spend a lot of time on the computer, whether playing games, studying, or net surfing, you have probably memorized the keyboard layout. However, there's a secret that the keyboard holds, that even some of you, who spend time on the computer, might not

QWERTY KEYBOARD

~	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	~	+	=	Delete
Tab	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	[]	\	
Caps	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	;	'	:	>	Enter
Shift	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	<	,	/	>	?	Shift	
Ctrl		Alt									Alt		Ctrl	

<http://www.computerhope.com>

know about.

The QWERTY effect is an effect that may

positively influence feelings towards words with more letters located on the right side of the layout. For example, the word happy has most of its letters on the right side of the keyboard, so we receive a more positive influence towards the word. Of course we cannot feel the brain giving the words a more positive attitude, but many

~	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	~	+	=	Backspace
Tab	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	[]	\	
Caps Lock	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	;	'	:	>	Enter
Shift	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	<	,	/	>	?	Shift	
Ctrl		Alt									Alt		Ctrl	

scientists have proved it.

Two scientists, David Garcia and Markus Strohmaier studied the QWERTY effect, and proved that the QWERTY effect applied to not only English, but to Dutch and Spanish as well.

To look deeply into this effect, we'll need to know

the origins of the QWERTY keyboard. Back in the early 1800s, the typewriter keyboard had a different layout than that of today. However, many of the female writers using the typewriter became too fast at typing, often breaking the typewriter itself. To prevent this, the QWERTY keyboard was introduced in 1878, and since then, we've been stuck with



this keyboard pattern.

The QWERTY effect can influence us in our daily lives: for example, names that we are given by our parents often include words on the right side of the QWERTY keyboard. The same can go

for characters in books. Main characters or heroes/heroines in a book tend to have more letters in their name on the right side of the keyboard to give the reader a good

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	%	← Backspace			
Tab	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	[]	\	
Caps Lock	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	;	'	:	>	Enter
Shift	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	<	,	/	>	?	Shift	
Ctrl	Win Key	Alt								Alt Gr	Win Key	Menu	Ctrl	

impression.

Like this, technology that we create can influence us in many ways: it helps us, it advances us, and it controls us. Kyle Jasmin, a scientist who helped write the report for the QWERTY effect, stated, "Technology changes words, and by association languages. It's an important thing to look at." Maybe technology can help us find the deeper meanings in the words we use.

SPACE ELEVATOR

By **RAPHAEL METHNER**
M2-8 AG



If you think of the types of transportation we use everyday, it will probably be something like cars, trains, buses and airplanes. In the not-too-distant future, however, a new type of machine that will take us to space might be invented.

This brand new machine will take us from the ground right up into space, approximately 35,000km above sea level. This will take

us out of the Earth's atmosphere altogether.

The elevator car will be attached to a cable and the force created by the rotation of the Earth, known as centrifugal force, prevents the derailing of the car (see diagram).

The car is very stable due to the strong cables, so it can withstand high winds and storms, and the materials it is constructed from can resist the kind of radiation which we



are protected from on Earth.

It is also possible that the space elevator will be built on other planets, moons, and even on asteroids.

The construction of the actual space elevator will be quite a challenge, since it requires advanced engineering, technology, and manufacturing. Also, it poses a danger to other flying machines, such as airplanes and spacecraft.

It is speculated that the space elevator will be launched from the equator, probably in southeast Asia.

Who first came up with the idea?

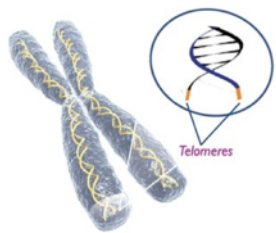
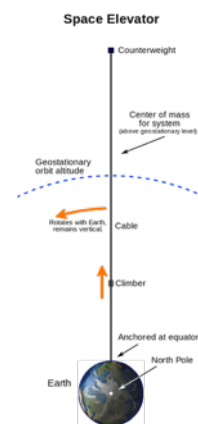
The Space Elevator was first imagined in 1895 by a Russian Scientist, Konstantin Tsiolkovsky. His theory was to build a tower similar to the Eiffel Tower in Paris, reaching up to space.

In the mid-20th century, people thought it was too challenging to build such a structure, so an American scientist, Jerome Pearson, suggested a moving

structure, like a train, and called this proposed structure a 'Space Elevator'.

It is expected that the Space Elevator will open in a few decades at the earliest, so you can't buy your ticket just yet. However, it is definitely an enormous challenge to scientists and engineers to actually construct the elevator.

Would you like to ride in a Space Elevator?



DIAGNOSIS OF FUTURE CANCER

Through recent studies,

By **REO KAWANA**
M3-7 AG

scientists at Harvard and Northwestern University have discovered a way to diagnose cancer up to 13 years in advance. This discovery could change your lifespan.

Inside each chromosome, there are telomeres. Telomeres are mainly linked to aging and disease, whereas its function is to provide protection from enzymatic end-degradation and to maintain chromosomal and genomic stability. Every one of your cells has telomeres and they shrink, or shorten, each time the cells divide. This suggests that, as you get older, your cells divide more compared to younger individuals, resulting in your telomeres getting

shorter. According to the new research, people who developed cancer had a tendency for their telomeres to get shorter and shorter



until around four years before the cancer actually developed.

It is possible for you to determine your telomere's length, by comparing them to the average length for your age. Your telomeres can be observed and tested by lyses of cells, extraction of DNA, or amplification of your peripheral whole blood cells. From the test, you will be told your telomere's length and the average for your age. By comparing the two control groups, doctors can predict whether you will develop a cancer or not. From these statistics, you can change your lifestyle to prevent this from happening. However, this latest technology for predicting the future can be critical for some. People who will be diagnosed with cancer

might lose their medical insurance coverage, or be priced out. This is something that experts now worry about.

After acknowledging the potential for predicting cancerous development in advance, people nowadays focus on how to prevent the acceleration of the telomere shortening. Here are some recommendations that you can actually perform in your daily routine to ease the shortening:

- Eating 10 servings a day of fresh and relatively uncooked fruits and vegetables, mixed fiber, monounsaturated fats, omega-3 fatty acids, cold water fish, and high quality vegetable proteins.



- Reducing the daily caloric intake, and implementing an exercise program.
- Fasting for 12 hours a night, at least 4 days a week.

- Keeping the ideal body weight with low body fat (less than 22 percent for women and 16 percent for men). Reducing visceral fat is important.

- Regular aerobic and resistance exercise for an hour per day.



- Sleeping for at least 8 hours per night.
- Stress reduction.
- Discontinuation of all tobacco products.

What seems clear is that each individual's life style can affect the telomere length greatly. The overall rituals are so called 'healthy', and can be a turning point in your health as well as the path ahead. Even if you receive a poor diagnosis, the implementations of these daily routines are imperative for a desirable outcome.

Teacher of the Month

Scribbled (S): Please introduce yourself...

Ms. Riddle (R): I'm Jeanetta Riddle, I'm from California and I've been in Japan for, I guess, 9 years? I have a husband and a 4 year old son and I've been at this school for 7 years.

S: Why did you decide to become a teacher, and teach what you do ?

R: When I was at university, I tutored a lot. There were a lot of tutoring programs in Los Angeles, in the inner city. After I graduated I went to Rural China (North-West China) with a professor and a group of students, and it was my first classroom teaching experience. I got to stay with a family there, and I had my own middle school class for about a month and a half, and I realized I liked this, so I went home and decided to pursue teaching. I think it was always something I considered.

I was actually a middle school math and science teacher back in San Francisco, and I liked that a lot actually. I struggled a lot in science when I was a student but teaching it and leading experiments was really fun. San Francisco is quite a fun city and there are a lot of support services for teachers, encouraging us to make math and science exciting.

When I was at grad school I had a job in curriculum development and that was kind of interesting to me. Like creating and developing a textbook and putting it into use. But not quite what I wanted to spend my days doing. When I found Hiroo Gakuen, they were looking for a social studies teacher. My background is in



Ms. Riddle

politics and development and policy so I thought why not?

S: What was difficult about growing up half American and half Japanese?

R: Well, it actually wasn't difficult for me because I was in a diverse environment. I just liked my situation. I feel American, whatever that means, and my husband and son are Japanese, and blood wise I'm Japanese and my surroundings as a child influenced who I am today. My mother was Japanese and so her influence is strong. Maybe sometimes people just wonder why I don't look exactly like they think someone with my name should look like.

I remember seaweed/nori being really expensive in California during the 1980's and my mom not being able to buy Japanese food staples so often. There were a lot of things my mom did (like make me tuck my t-shirt into all my clothes) and wear my hair in pig tails for far too many years (like, you wouldn't do that to a child after the age of four in the US); I thought she

was just being cruel. Then I came to Japan as an adult and it all made sense. So maybe that was difficult.

S: What are the good parts about living in Japan?

R: There are a lot of things that are good about Japan: the food is really good, the public transport is really good, and the streets are really clean.

S: What about the bad things?

R: It's really punctual. Time is really not flexible sometimes, and sometimes I'm really bad with time. Well, more like it has taken me a while to understand what being punctual means here.

S: Why do you wear your green necklace thingy?

R: I've been wearing this since I graduated University, so like 14 years, because my best friend's mom gave it to me as a graduation present. She is Chinese-American and in China jade is used a lot in jewellery and I think it signifies good luck. It's supposed to look like bamboo but students think its 枝豆. I

don't wear a lot of jewellery these days but it reminds me of home and I love it.

S: What's good about studying math and/or science ?

R: You should study what you love.

S: But what if you don't know ?

R: Then you should study everything! You can study what you want. Even when you're like 40, you can take up an interest or hobby, there's nothing stopping you. But like if you want to be a surgeon or something, study what you need to do that! It's unfortunate you have to choose, you should be able to study what you want, but you have to make a choice, and there's only a certain amount of hours in a day.

S: What's your greatest memory at this school?

R: Nothing specific. Because I'm concentrated in high school, I love when people start getting their Uni results, and seeing so many students get into their first choices. Like you got what you wanted and I'm happy for you because you guys work SO HARD and take your education so seriously.

S: What club would you have been in ?

R: I would have been in the mock UN, and some sort of art club, like I really liked art in high school, it was a big part of my identity.

S: So you can draw?

R: I used to be able to, not anymore. I think I just stopped when I went to university and decided to study politics. Like I can't draw anymore but I like to paint with my son. In high

school, I went to art college classes on weekends, during the summer, and at school, that sort of thing. I liked creating but I'm quite introverted so I didn't like having to explain my art or the thought of displaying what I created. I'm not a big performer. I don't really like too much attention.

S: So you wouldn't have liked sports festival or music festival?

R: It would have been the worst days of my year!! I'm not good at team sports!

S: It's so unfair that they grade us on how fast we run...

R: You see, that would have terrified me! I like running, but not when there's pressure. I'm not very good with pressure. The music test you

guys have to do sounds terrible, like I'd have a stomachache from like a week before. You see these are the types of things you guys do, and I didn't, and I think, I think, it makes you stronger? I never want to do it though. Is it fun?

S: Well sports festival is, but not music tests!!

S: Favorite T.V. Series?

R: Freaks and Geeks

S: Favorite movie?

R: Breakfast at Tiffany's. I don't know why but it's one of those movies that I can watch over and over again. I like the colors in the film. I don't like the portrayal of the Japanese landlord though...

S: What's something that

most people at the school don't know about you?

R: I am a big fan of the San Francisco Giants. I come from a family of baseball fanatics. I've run the Tokyo Marathon twice. I used to run a lot. I ran the first one when running wasn't really popular here. Now it's super popular and hard to get a spot. I don't think I will ever run again.

S: Were you a good student?

R: Sure. I was a decent student. I was not so strong in science after middle school. I just didn't get it after biology. I think something was lost there. But I have a lot of respect for the sciences and people that are strong in them. I would love to try my science education again but

from the start. In elementary school, we had to complete science fair projects yearly and that was like so not fun. The science courses here seem so interesting and the teachers really love their subjects. I would like to see what Physics is like. I've never studied it.

I was strong in the arts and languages. I guess art class was always my favorite though. I was interested in politics, too. I think my dream job in high school was to work at the UN. Not really sure doing what, but using languages to make the world a more communicative place.

S: Words of advice?

R: "Choose your friends wisely and cherish them!"

RECENT AFFAIRS IN JAPANESE SOCIETY

By GO KUROKI

H2-8



From this issue of Scribbled onwards, I will be using this article to introduce you to hot current events in Japan. Not only me telling you about the event; you can tell me your opinion about the topics covered through Google Forms, which I will create for each article. I will present the statistics and some of your opinions in the following issue. And if I'm lucky enough I can also get opinions from the teachers, and share them with you guys. Of course it will be anonymous (except for teachers, sorry!), so please feel free to send me your wonderful opinions!

For the first topic, I chose a topic you will need to know about in order to live in Japan. It's about the Japanese government lowering the voting age to 18.

Let's start with a short history about Japan's voting age. In the beginning, Japan's minimum voting age was 25 in the year 1889 when the Meiji Constitution was still around. But the right was only given to men with enough wealth. 36 years later, every man 25 or over was given the right to vote, but still, women weren't allowed to vote at that point. In 1946, when our current constitution was promulgated, everyone over the age of 20 was given the right to vote, and that has continued until now. Last year, the Japanese government led by the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party, announced that they would revise the Public Office Election Law and lower the voting age to 18.

There are two main reasons why the Japanese government announced the lowering of the minimum voting age. Firstly: because Japan is rapidly becoming an aging society. Since the number of old people is increasing faster than the number of young people, the government has realized the importance of balancing the two and diversifying opinions.

Second of all, young people are losing interest in politics. By lowering the voting age, young people will be able to get a chance to think seriously about politics and send their voices to the government. His or her voice will be reflected in tomorrow's government, enabling the government to make a better society where everyone, both young and old, can live comfortably.

I believe that this change will bring Japanese government and society huge benefits. But I also thought of the bad effects too. Young people, because of their age, are easily influenced by elements such as education and the mass media. They may not be able to make up their mind, and turn to these for help. If this happens, these elements could guide young people to vote for a particular party and control the flow of votes. In addition, the current voting rate of Japanese people is low (52.66%, from Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, as of May 12th) and lowering the voting age does not guarantee an increase in voter numbers.

The cost of elections is paid from taxes. If many of the young people were not able to choose whom to vote for and decided not to vote, about ten million yen would be wasted. Voter numbers would still likely be a problem in the future, especially when 18 year olds and 19 year olds start to vote.

Citizens over 18 will be able to vote in the election after the election for the House of Councillors is held, around this June.

This article will not get going without your support! Please send me your opinion through Google Forms to make this article better! See you in the next issue.

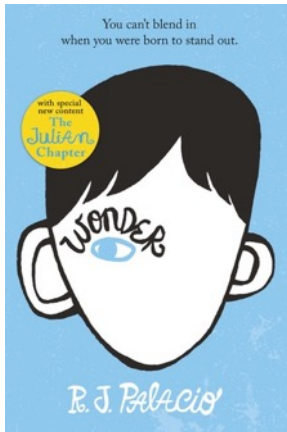
For Google Forms this week, I will be asking you these questions:

1. Are you interested in sociology topics (politics, economics etc.)?
2. What particularly are you interested in?
3. Do you agree on Japan lowering its minimum voting age to 18? Why?
4. Would you like to vote and participate in elections? Why?
5. Any opinions or suggestions about this article.

Google Form Link for this issue:
<https://goo.gl/mo72RN>

BOOK OF THE MONTH: WONDER

By **YOSHINO
YAMAUCHI**
M3-7 AG

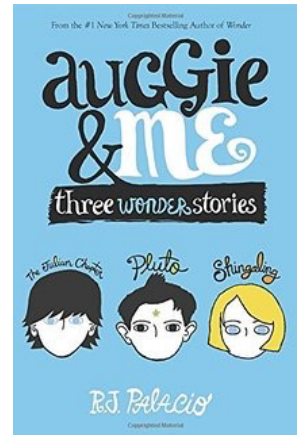


Wonder is one of those books that has not been turned into a movie, but deserves to be. Told from six different perspectives, it tells the heart-warming story of an ordinary boy with an extraordinary face, and the challenges he and the people around him face when he starts middle school.

As a middle school student myself, I understood the joys and terrors August, the main character, faces. Fitting in, keeping up, and plainly getting over each day were problems he faced and, halfway through the book,

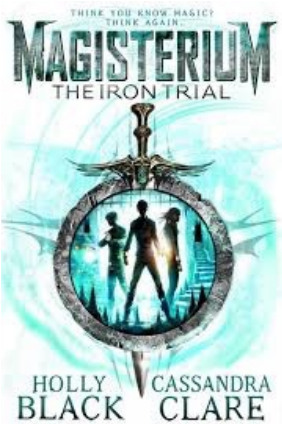
turn out to be the same problems the other characters - his sister, friends, and enemies - face. In the end, August shows that it doesn't matter whether you have Treachers Collins syndrome or not. Middle school changes everything, but with a little bit of kindness, anything is possible. This is applicable to us, miles away, reading the book.

There is a sequel / spin-off version of the book titled *Auggie and Me* which explores the points-of-view of other characters around him.



BOOK OF THE MONTH 2: THE IRON TRIAL

By **MIA SANO**
M2-7 AG



The Iron Trial, by Cassandra Clare and Holly Black, is the first installment in the middle-grade *Magisterium* series. The protagonist, Callum Hunt, has a father who can use magic. Only, his father has a certain antagonism for it, and has warned him to stay away from it his whole life. Now, the *Iron Trial* is coming up — the exam deciding whether or not you deserve a place in the magic school, the *Magisterium*. Call performs his worst, true to his intentions, but is somehow accepted anyway. Now he must face a world entirely unprecedented for him.

The blurb definitely makes you think of a certain series already written, and yes, it has received many controversial reviews for that. However, despite the magic school and all, the magic system and the school work very differently, and it doesn't feel like reading the same thing as *Harry Potter*. I feel like most of the people talking about all the *Harry Potter* similarities are pointing them out for the sake of it.

The main character, Call, is very different, for instance. I found him very refreshing. He wasn't your typical hero—he was a misfit, a cripple, and on top of that, a jealous, unsocializing jerk. Some people see these as “bad factors for a character”, but really, that's sort of the point. I, personally, could understand where his jerkiness came from, and it was interesting as well as relatable to see him go through the loneliness and jealousy. His relationships with the other characters were much more complicated than *Harry Potter*. I loved how a character could be flawed and capable at the same time. His character development was done very well, too.

He and his two new friends form a trio, which, in fact, resembles the *Harry Potter* one. This, in my opinion, is where it got the closest to the *Harry Potter* series. We have the brainiac (Tamara), the one who's nice to everybody and gets everyone's attention (Aaron), and the jealous and flawed but loyal friend (Call). Aaron really interests me. Although he's that typical, flawless Superman-type of character, he's still a kind of mystery to the readers; I really hope that we get to see his character development and background more in the later books. I was also very fond of Tamara (who parallels Hermione Granger). But what I liked about her is that she had a kind of quiet self-confidence, a sense of pride that doesn't have a know-it-all thing going on. It wasn't a barefaced quality, but it shows periphrastically.

As for the plot, I was immediately hooked from the beginning. It opens with a scene from the past involving Call's father, mother, and a massacre, which is a key element to the story. Call's father, Alastair, finds a large pile of corpses, including his wife, Sarah, only to find an

even more unbearable message carved into the ground. The best part of this book, though, was the plot twist. It was so unpredictable and mind-blowing.

The Iron Trial is definitely a set-up novel, as most series entries are. But the world was so imaginative and fascinating that I flew through every part of it. I was pleasantly surprised because I went into it assuming it was a total rip-off of *Harry Potter*, and I loved following along Call's journey. It is no *Les Misérables*—it's an easy, light read (about 200 pages) but still enjoyable. It's one of those books where you're always wanting to read on.



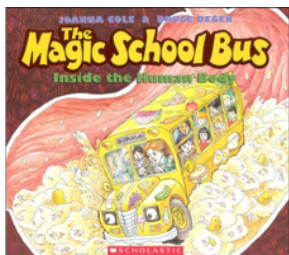
MONTHLY BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

MAY ISSUE: BOOKS WE READ AS KIDS

As May comes to an end, it's about time students finally feel comfortable in their new grade. I, for one, finally stopped reacting every single time I hear "M3-7". It's at times like this, you realize how old you've become. Yeah, I know we've only lived around (hopefully) a fifth of our lives, but becoming a high schooler, or even a middle schooler for that matter, was once something that we just day-dreamt about. It's times like this that makes you contemplate about how much you've grown both physically and mentally. As we are stuck with ourselves for every single day of our lives, we tend not to realize these changes by ourselves, but they don't go without being noticed. This growth is oftentimes reflected in our interests. This goes with books as well. Unless you are passionately devoted to a particular series or a book, the books you loved as a 6-year-old are probably very different from the ones you love now. But that doesn't necessarily mean those books you used to read are bad. Not at all. In fact, most of them are amazing books that still remain etched in our memory to this day. So for the May nostalgic issue, I've decide to round up 5 of the most memorable books that were a huge part of our childhood. This is not exactly a recommendation, but I suggest you take a look back at these books because they can be highly entertaining.

*Disclaimer: The selection of the books tends to be American biased due to personal experience. Sorry Brits

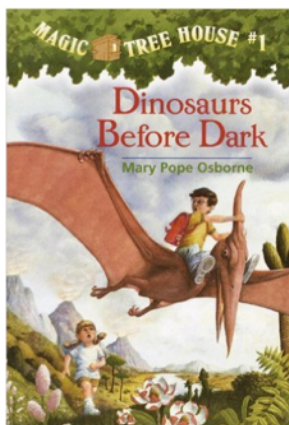
MAGIC SCHOOL BUS - JOANNA COLE & BRUCE DEGEN



Highly educational, teaching us about things like the human body and the solar system, they were the stars of our kindergarten classroom. Featuring a very strange teacher Ms. Fizzle, her third grade class, and a very

unusual school bus that can go inside a beehive and to the ocean floor, these were the best kinds of books, ones that taught you something without you even realizing it. Even if you haven't heard of this picture book series

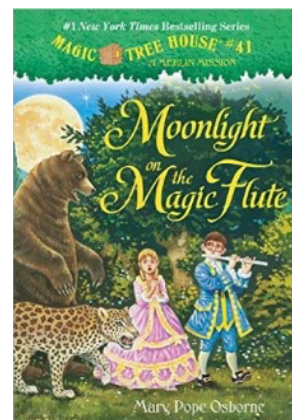
(although I doubt it), you might be familiar with the animated TV series of the same name.



MAGIC TREE HOUSE - MARY POPE OSBORNE

Yeah, I think I see a theme here. We were pretty into "magic" back then. Following the thrilling adventures of siblings Jack and Annie over continents and time, this book was my first experience of a lot of things. It was the first real English book that I read, and it was also my first look into historical incidents that I

would study more in-depth later in life. But most of all it was my first experience of being addicted to a series. I'm confident that I am not the only one who hoards more than a few of these books at home. I personally own everything up to volume 36. Can anyone beat that record?

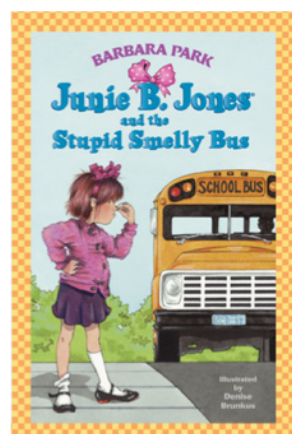


JUNIE B. JONES - BARBARA PARKER

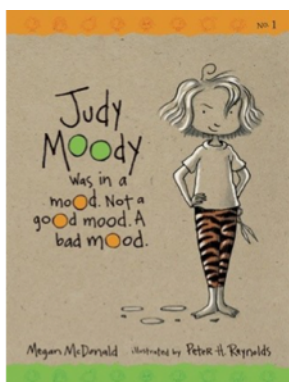
If Magic Tree House was my first encounter with English books, this book was my first look into girlhood. Written in basic 5-year-old wording from the perspective of a kindergartener (later, first grader) Junie B. Jones, it

captured the essential factors of first grade like crushes, that annoying girl in class, and of course, a talking stuffed elephant. It really felt like Junie B. Jones really got me, and I loved that she used 'B' for her middle name

because I quote, "*The B stands for Beatrice. Except I don't like Beatrice. I just like B and that's all.*" By the way, I own 16 volumes of these books.

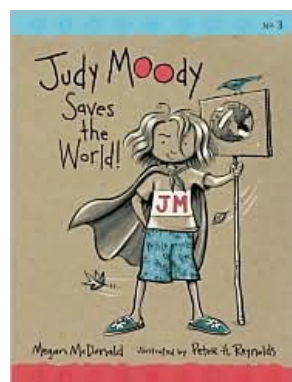


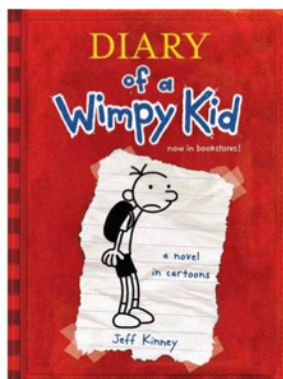
JUDY MOODY - BARBARA PARKER



A similar, but a more grown-up, middle grade version of Junie B. Jones. Things are different now because we as readers are a little older, and so is the main character, a third grade girl called Judy Moody. Now there are *serious* things she needs to consider, like the seating arrangements

in her new class as well as her future ambition to become a doctor. I remember relating so much with Judy, as it was the time I was starting to discover my more sassy, sarcastic, moody side, and her struggles of having an annoying little brother were so on point!



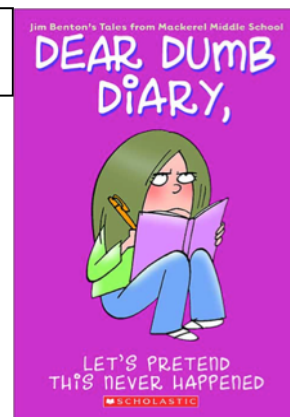
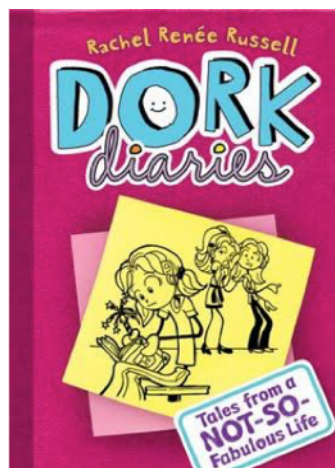


This is kind of cheating because it's a three-in-one type of thing, but oh my god, these diary-styled books! I had an obsession with them in elementary school, especially the Dork Diaries series, and although they

DIARY OF A WIMPY KID / DORK DIARIES / DEAR DUMB DIARY - JEFF KINNEY / RACHEL RENÉE RUSSELL / JIM BENTON

weren't exactly the coolest people on earth, I wanted to be like them because their lives seemed so interesting! From Greg Heffley, whose mom bought him a notebook that says 'diary' on the cover *even though it's a journal*, and Nikki, whose mom is "brain-dead" because she gave her a diary instead of an iPhone as a present for starting a new school, they were hilarious, entertaining characters that I wished I knew in real life.

I am also embarrassed to admit that these books have



countless times motivated me to start writing a diary only to give up after two or three days.

Come on, I'm not the only one, right?!

WHAT ONE FILM WAS ABLE TO ACHIEVE

By **SHU SASAKI**
M3-7

It's the movie that shocked so many people across the globe. It was the moment when people first saw the dinosaurs of Jurassic Park. We also laughed when the man in the bathroom was eaten by the T-Rex. But all of these scenes were only made possible by the use of special effects, something that was hardly even touched upon until then. And last year came the movie we were all waiting for, 'JURASSIC WORLD'.

There are many differences between the two movies, and the biggest difference is the fact that in the new one, they were able to use far more special effects to make this story of an island filled with genetically-modified dinosaurs look more realistic. I would like to compare the differences between the two movies, just to give people an idea of how amazing the new movie now is.

First and foremost, the most important comparison to make is the improvement in technology. In the last two decades, movie production has come a long way. Just over twenty years ago the first one of the series

of three Jurassic Park movies was created. Back then when it was first created, it took a tremendous amount of time for the team to film one second of the film, resulting in the Computer Generated dinosaurs only being in the film for six minutes in total, during the two hour and seven minute running time. However, these six minutes



paved the way for the new movies coming out today, including Jurassic World, which came out last year.

If you have seen the original three movies, you must watch the one that came out last year. Not only is this movie larger in scale, it actually talks of the park being attacked by the creatures. In Jurassic World,

the main threat was a newly created species of dinosaurs, one that was created by man, with out knowing the consequences of what could actually happen. In this film the monster, which is called the "INDOMINUS REX" (seen below) is a genetically modified dinosaur, which was constructed to be much stronger than any other dinosaur ever to roam the great earth.

In my opinion, I feel as if this idea for a dinosaur was created to show the negative effects of gene editing, a topic now largely talked about in the science world. Mostly everything in our natural world has a weakness, just so it can maintain a place in the world. If one species was to dominate the system, everything would go extinct. However from the fact that this "INDOMINUS REX" was created to not possess any weaknesses ultimately leads to great consequences, which is something we all would know if we had seen the other three. And yet, although I have seen the other three, I still feel as if this story is more thrilling than the other ones.

As well as my own personal opinion, I want to include a review from the film website "Rotten Tomatoes",

on which Jurassic World received a 72% rating. Ann Hornaday from The Washington Post states:

"The set pieces, admittedly, are impressive, especially when the benighted Indominus stomps her way to freedom, crushing, impaling and of course eating everything in her path."

I, for one certainly agree with what she had stated, because of the fact that the Indominus Rex was very well portrayed as if it were a monster rising from the depths of hell right beneath our very feet. Each and every single moment of this movie is filled with stomach churning excitement and I honestly really appreciated just how much detail was put into the making of one film.

I highly recommend this new movie for people that may not have seen it yet; and for people that have, I hope you have found this background about the film interesting and informative.

MOVIE REVIEW: ZOOTOPIA



By **LISA MURAKAMI**
M3-7

The age range for a movie is very important for movies. While some movies may be for young children, some may be for teenagers, or even adults. When making a movie intended for young children, it needs to be happy and simple so that the children can understand it. On the other hand, movies aimed at adults tend to have more violence and some may not have happy endings. When I am asked what the age range is for Zootopia, I would say

that it is suitable for people of any age.

Children think that every story has a happy ending. I feel that in the movie Zootopia, while the main characters Judy and Nick have to overcome many problems, in the end, they succeed and have a happy ending which makes it suitable for young children. It also includes humor, which many kids my age and teenagers love. In addition, they have more serious issues which teenagers tend to have, which is friend problems and trust. This doesn't only apply to teenagers, but also adults as well. Finally, the movie dwells on the topic about how dreams are very different from reality, and that life is not as easy as it looks, which relates to people of all ages. This is one good reason why I recommend this movie Zootopia.

Some books or movies have one main plot,

and some have lots. In the movie "Zootopia", there are two main plots; Judy Hopps trying to fit into the life in the city, and the crisis in Zootopia. There are also numerous climaxes in the movie, which gave us some thrills.

Not only was the plot of the story good, but also the background music used throughout the movie matched the scenes and was very original. The music is very important because once the tone of the music changes, the tone of the background changes. It is very hard to find suitable music for a specific scene, and it is harder to compose new music. Additionally, the actors for the main characters had created their characters' personalities and made them very believable. For example, in the scene where Judy Hopps cries and promises that she will do better next time, Ginnifer Goodwin, the voice actress of Judy had

made a perfect impression of Judy.

Finally, the setting for this movie is based on a world of all animals excluding Humans. The creative ways that Zootopia functions and helps the animals were amazing. For instance, when smoothies go through a tube upwards for giraffes, the ideas the writers had were clever and interesting, which hooks the person watching to want to watch more.

These were my reasons why I recommend the movie "Zootopia", because the movie is towards people of all ages, because there are several main points and climaxes, because the music and actors match the characters and background perfectly, and finally, because the world of 'Zootopia' is very imaginative.

If you have any time to check this movie out at the movie theaters, go watch it! I highly recommend this movie.

MONTHLY SURVEY: MOTHER'S DAY

Mothers have the hardest job in the world. They work 24/7, 365 days a week with no pay. Because they are so good at their job, we tend not to realize how hard they constantly work, and we don't appreciate it enough. So in honor of Mother's Day, which was on May 8th in Japan, we asked the teachers in the International Course what they thank their mother the most for, and what the best gift they have given her was.

What do you thank your mother the most for?

What is the best gift you have given her?

Ms. Kudo

- I thank my mother for making me different kinds of food (so I didn't get any dislikes in food) and now that I am a mother, I feel really thankful to have her as my mom.
- I give her seasonal flowers and she seems happy every time!

Ms. Taniai

- I thank my mother for first, being a strict mother, and teaching me basic things like table manners, the use of chopsticks, and how to greet people. Secondly, I thank her for fighting against my father when paying for university bills.
- The best gift I have given her was a trip to Kamikouchi hotel and a surprise champagne and cake.

Mr. Bowley

- I thank my mother for taking me to the library, borrowing 4-5 books a week and making me a keen reader. Because of that, I could become a English teacher.
- She buys my daughter many things so I think the best gift I've given my mother is my daughter. I have also given her animals, dresses, and decorated a spare bedroom.

Mr. Fance

- I thank my mother for bringing up me and my brother to be friends, although siblings usually fight a lot. She made sure that my brother and I got along with each other, and thanks to her, we are best mates now.

Mr. Peel

- I thank my mother the most for trying so hard to see things from my perspective when I was young.
- The best gift I've given her is bringing my mother to see her granddaughter (my daughter). She lives very far away.

Mr. Plunkett

- I thank her for really everything! All the love, the work, and the patience she has given me.
- I think the best gift I've given her is her grandchildren, and now she has a new grandson!

Mr. Rowland

- I thank my mother the most for teaching me that kindness is one of the most important things.
- The best gift I've given her is a poem which I wrote just for her!

Mr. Kanda

- I really thank my mom for giving birth to me and letting me do whatever I want.
- I gave her flowers and letters for Mother's Day.

Mr. Kawamoto

- I thank my mother for bringing me up and giving birth to me.
- I always give her flowers like carnations on Mother's Day.

Ms. Uematsu

- My mother has supported me a lot so I really want to thank her for that. I think she is happy that her children have achieved success in different ways.

Ms. Ching

- I thank my mother for moving to Canada so me and my siblings could get good a education, although she couldn't speak English. It must have been difficult to leave all her friends and family behind. Without her I wouldn't have become an English teacher, and you guys wouldn't have been blessed with Ms. Ching!
- I always give her flowers. I once gave her origami flowers with folded messages inside but I don't think she realized yet...

Ms. Koibuchi

- I thank my mother for reading books to me a lot when I was a child, and giving me a good imagination. I want to be someone who she can be proud of.

Mr. Reid

- I thank my mother the most for teaching me to accept life's challenges and to be happy even if everything is not perfect.
- The best gift I have given her were some yellow roses, her favourite flower.

Mr. Vander Yacht

- I thank my mother for being really patient when I was growing up, even when I had a bad attitude as a teenager, which I think was really annoying.
- My mother is Danish so I always give her her favourite sweets: black liquorice.

Mr. Patmore

- I thank my mother for looking after me so well and supporting me in every decision. My mother supported me the most when I decided to become a teacher in Japan.
- I think the best present I have given her is... 'me!' I also thank my mother for her hard work in learning how to drive, just to drive me to my cricket games.

Ms. Riddle

- I thank my mother for spending lots of time together with me. Also, she was really strict with me, but she gave me a lot of freedom to choose what to do with my life, so I could become a teacher that I wanted.
- The best gift I gave her was traveling to Japan together.

Mr. Kudo

- I thank my mother the most for raising me, and I wish her to stay healthy.
- In elementary school, I gave her a massage ticket and I think she was very happy.

Mr. Bright

- I thank my mother for putting up with me for god knows how many years!
- I think the best gift I've given her is her grandchildren, and also a teddy bear which I made, that weighs the same amount as I weighed when I was born.

Mr. Jackson

- I thank my mother the most for taking care of me, even though I was a selfish child and didn't think about her feelings. She taught me how to be thankful and I am really grateful for that.
- The best gift I have given her is a flat screen TV and a Dyson vacuum.

Mr. Smith

- I thank my mom the most for giving birth to me.
- The best gift I've ever given her is that I left home *laughs*

Mr. Vasquez

- I thank my mother for giving me a good whack when I did something wrong.
- The best gift I gave her was that I did her proud.

Mr. Mori

- I thank my mum the most for always settling me and my older sister's arguments.
- The best gift I've ever given her is when I cooked cocotte (kind of like cream gratin) for her and I think she really enjoyed eating it.

Mr. McClure

- I thank my mother for giving me a love of books and reading. It was very helpful for my job.
- The best present I have given her is when I called her and took her for a drive to the dodgems.

Ms. Peck

- I thank my mum the most for continuing to support me now, even though I'm already an adult.
- Every year I send her a hand-made card with a message on it, so I'm planning to do it this year as well!

Ms. Tanabe

- I thank my mother for first, giving birth to me, second, giving me freedom, and third, supporting me to become a teacher.
- She likes drinking so I always give her sake on special days.

Ms. Umeki

- I thank my mother for making meals every day for me when I was young, and looking after my children very well as a grandmother.

The Scribbled Team thanks all the teachers for their support, and for answering questions! We would also like to apologize about taking up the teachers' time with (sometimes personal) questions. We really appreciate your cooperation. In fact, most of the students would not have read Scribbled let alone join if not for the teacher-related articles and surveys. The Scribbled Team looks forward to interviewing the teachers again! (We hope that we're not too annoying...)

COOKERY CORNER

Chocolate Chip Scones

Ingredients:

- Pancake / Hotcake Mix: 200g
- Butter: 50g
- Milk: 45ml
- Chocolate bar: 1 piece

The Cookery Corner has survived the so-called Scribbled Revolution thanks to our new members. We are grateful that one of the oldest sections can now be continued. Please enjoy a new generation of the Cookery Corner brought to you by Hinako Tanabe.



Instructions:

1. Cut the chocolate bar into small pieces.
2. In a bowl, add the butter and pancake mix together and mix with a spatula.
3. Add the milk and cut-up chocolate to the bowl.
4. Take the mixture out on a piece of cooking sheet and shape it round.
5. Cut it up into equal 8 parts (kind of a triangle shape)
6. Bake it for 25 minutes in 170° oven
7. Enjoy!

Extra tip:

Adding extra ingredients such as chocolate powder and nuts will add more flavor to your scones!

COMING SOON!



NEXT ISSUE:

Theme: Rain



Articles:

- Ball game review: H1's Unexpected Victory
- California trip reflection
- M1&H1 Schole

New content:

- Comics
- The Mysterious Survey

Hints for the next Teacher-of-the-Month:

He has impeccable eyesight
And he does not write with his right
You probably won't beat him in a fight.

Guess who?

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In Edgar Allen Poe's short story *The Cask of Amontillado*, during carnival time a man named Montresor lures his friend Fortunato into a deep, dark cellar and murders him by chaining him up behind a wall and burying him alive. Here is our artist's imagining of what happens after the story ends...

