

# THE PAWPRINT

NOV 2018

## In This Issue:

- Festival of Lights
- Ballroom Dancing
- Separating Nationality & Identity
- Life Behind Supermarkets
- BTEC Takes Edinburgh



Notes on Watching  
the Play  
"A Streetcar Named  
Desire"



BERLIN  
BRANDENBURG  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL



# Editors Note

Dear BBIS Community,

November brings a lot of events and special days, but one that has stood out to us is the charity initiative known as “Movember” (combination of “moustache” and “November”) that aims to raise awareness about men’s health issues including prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and men’s suicide. To support this project, you can put your facial hair to the show every year during this month. If you wish to, you can also help The Movember Foundation with a donation at [Movember.com](http://Movember.com).

An interesting article that we came across this month was Nicolas Hulot’s (former French Minister for the Environment) infographic initiative. It revealed that if the internet were a country, it’d be the 6th most significant energy consumer and 7th CO2 emitter. The publication also stated that watching a video on a smart-phone represents the yearly electricity consumption of a refrigerator. Apparently, the digital sector will be a larger polluter than the aviation industry by 2019. This information is certainly something to remain mindful about when using technology.

We would also like to take this opportunity and thank our passionate and dedicated member Jaqueline Bre- itkreuz who introduced the monthly Science Article to cover new discoveries in medicine. Unfortunately for the BBIS community, she will be studying at a new school from now on. Thank you for everything, and farewell Jackie!

In this issue, you’ll find an interesting perspective on identity in Salma’s article and in the Humans of BBIS section. We also recommend Isabel’s research on pollution as well as Meila’s account of how food waste is repurposed to keep people from going hungry. Enjoy!

Cheers,

Chantal Materne and Luca Pistor  
November 2018

Writers: Ada Basford, Barbara Scheer, Celine de Rouen, Donnya Torkaman, Friso Althuis, Isabel von Stein, Isabel White, Jaqueline Breit- kreuz, Jessica Yun, Julius Behne, Liza Rogova, Meila Heidt, Moana Kammerer, Naemi Diti- at- kovsky, Nelli Molfenter, Salma Abu- dagga, Yahli Bibi

Layout Design: Celine de Rouen

Cover Design: Audrey Zhang

Photographer: Liza Rogova, Ujjwala Chawla

Marketing: Yahli Bibi, Tara Michelsen



# Table of Contents

## Culture

**Notes on watching the play “A Streetcar Named Desire”**

by Barbara Scheer

**Festival of Lights**

by Isabelle White

**It’s Never Too Late To Learn Ballroom Dancing**

by Chantal Materne

**Separating Nationality & Identity: What it Means to Be a Thirds Culture Kid**

by Salma Abudagga



## Art

**Comic: Sequel**

by Ada Basford & Isabel von Stein

## Science

**Nobel Prizes in Physiology and Medicine 2018**

by Jackie Breitkreuz

**Our Oceans Suffer from Pollution**

by Isabel von Stein



## Local

**Life Behind Supermarkets: Review of Berliner Tafel**

by Meila Heidt

**Reflecting on Grade 10’s Trip Week**

by Naemi Ditiatkovsky

## International

**BTEC Takes Edinburgh**

by Yahli Bibi

**Portrait: Elon Musk, From Bullied to Billionaire**

by Julius Behner

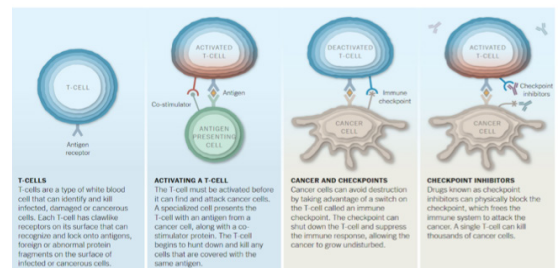
## Short Story

**Withered Flowers: Episode 5**

by Friso Althuis

**Wolf Howls: Chapter 3**

by Moana Kammerer



# Notes on watching the play “A Streetcar Named Desire”

By Barbara Scheer

The play based on Tennessee Williams’ “A Streetcar Named Desire” is directed by Michael Thalheimer and exhibited in the Berliner Ensemble in Autumn 2018. It is performed in German however; but English subtitles are also displayed.

The stage setting is a rectangle shape, a few meters above the ground, in front of a black wall. The stage has a diagonal tilt which makes moving around for the actors difficult and results in dramatic jumps and people tripping. The simplicity, the modern shape and the sharp edges make the stage look very contemporary. This takes the events portrayed out of their context of time, suggesting that the issues in the play are also applicable to today’s society.

The play depicts Blanche Dubois arriving at her sister Stella’s house in New Orleans, claiming she came to visit her. However, as the play goes on, we learn about Blanche’s troubled situation. She is in a financially poor situation, lost her job and is in a miserable mental state. Amongst personal challenges, she has to learn how to live with her sister’s husband and adapt to her new lifestyle.

The director interprets William’s play in a quite radical way. The main characters’ traits and emotions are emphasized by grand gestures. Particularly Blanche, who is played by Cordelia Wege, seems to have a slightly bizarre behavior. The whole play is also very loud with characters frequently raising their voices as tension escalates followed by abrupt moments of silence. This brings out the tragedy of the play in a rather touching way and, I found, left me somewhat emotionally exhausted.

The sound effects bring contrast to the original play’s blue piano and jazz type of music. The music in the background which accompanies the actors through the majority of the play is very modern and rhythmic. This builds tension and supports the actors’ recurrent dramatic reactions. Dynamic, loud music appears at the end of each scene, which helps the audience to acknowledge and prepare for the transition to the next scene.

The lighting is kept bright and white, which in combination with the black background contributes to a cold, strained and slightly frightening mood.

My first reaction to the play as a whole was that it interprets the book in a very certain, focused way that deviates from the original text in terms of mood and atmosphere. The modern, dynamic and sudden approach creates an unexpected experience and leaves you slightly shook. For me, there is no question, is an impactful artwork that has still not left my thoughts. Its deep meaning is successfully conveyed through symbolic features present in the stage design, music, lighting and acting.

I would particularly recommend watching this play to anyone who has read the book and likes their perspectives and interpretations being challenged.



# FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

By Isabel White

The Festival of Lights in Berlin is one of the biggest events of its kind in the world. Each year in the first few weeks of October, the most famous landmarks of Berlin are illuminated with photographs, artwork, and vibrant colours.

The most popular destinations to view the lights are the Brandenburg Gate, the TV Tower, and the Berliner Dom. Art and photographs are shaped into the festival by famous artists around the world. In recent years, less known local artists have also entered their work into the event to be projected onto buildings to increase their prominence. These new artists see it as an advertising opportunity,

while also contributing to the palette of the festival. The best way to see all of the lights in the festival is to start at the smaller, lesser known buildings, and then walk towards the Brandenburg Gate to finish. The Brandenburg Gate is the epicenter of the festival. In front of the gate there is live music, dancing, lit-up balloons and flower crowns, and an overall joyful atmosphere.

After walking around the city and seeing over five different pieces of art, my favorite was found near Alexanderplatz. This piece of art featured a tiger on the side of a building. I really liked the intensity and colours used in the art. The tiger's tail was moving

back and forth, which added to the intense effect. Several people stayed to watch the tiger for several minutes: all staring in awe at the astonishing piece. My favourite aspect of the festival was watching hundreds of people from different parts of the world come together and share a common appreciation for the art. There was abundant positive energy at every location. I would definitely return to the festival next year, and I strongly encourage everybody to experience the Berlin Festival of Lights.

# Separating Nations What it Means to K

By Salma Abudagga

According to every teenager's favourite source, the Urban Dictionary, the term "Third Culture Kid" (TCK) refers to a "person whose personal "culture" is a fusion of two or more cultures to which he/she was exposed to during childhood". Being someone who has lived in six different countries and on four continents; it is safe to say that I am as "third-culture" as it gets. Although the year is 2018 and we, as mankind, are considered to be at the highest level of development there ever existed, ethnic stereotyping remains a problem of utmost importance. With time, the common misconception that ethnicity is closely linked or intertwined with identity has ceased to vanish. The lack of emphasis on the importance of cultural exchange creates a barrier between the individual and the world. This is the main root of ethnic stereotyping. Additionally, the media's portrayal of various cultures and its manipulation of news to blur lines between religion, nationality, and individuality influences our attitudes, establishing cultural references and even perpetuating cliches commonly associated with marginalised populations.



# Quality and Identity: Be a Third Culture Kid

However, through physical exposure to different cultures, children can learn to formulate original opinions on individuals, regardless of their race, religion, or ethnic background. As an international child, one learns to become understanding and even empathic. Open-mindedness is a key feature of most third culture kids as they are put in environments of contrasting beliefs and political stances. They learn to ultimately gain understanding and confidence about encountering people of diverse nationalities in the future. International schools may as well be the very key to world peace, and international students their potential peacemaking ambassadors.

Editor's book recommendation: "Third Culture Kids: The Experience of Growing up Between Worlds" by David Pollock and Ruth van Reken

# Never Too Late to Learn Ballroom Dancing

By Chantal Materne

From the annual Summer ball in your hometown (Photo 1), across a relative's wedding, and all the way to a night out in an exotic country, you might stumble across a ballroom dance floor or two during your lifetime. In these scenarios it will come in handy to know a few more steps than just the running man or moonwalking. So bear with me to take your shuffling to the next level!

Conventionally, ballroom dancing involves a "leader" and a "follower" and is praised by teachers and students alike for improving physical as well as mental health. Aside from having a new CAS activity, you will be able to adopt an upright posture and delve into the benefits of communicating and socializing. For me, it's the perfect combination of my love for both music and sports.

Ballroom dancing is a broad term for a plethora of latin and standard dances, so it's likely for you to find one that corresponds to your taste. Some of us students at school have been

attending dance classes by Daniela Jordan where we learned the basics of slow waltz, wiener waltz, foxtrot, memphis (line dance), "Friesenrock", rock'n'roll, swing, boogie, Argentinian tango, rumba, salsa, cha cha, paso doble, merengue and bachata. The weekly classes occur between November and April of every year and lead up to a final formal ball in Spring (Photo 2). All you need for the latter is to pick a dance partner, wear an evening gown, and you're good to go! You can always spice it up with a cute pair of dancing shoes from "Zeller Tanzschuhe".

Daniela Jordan offers a beginner, intermediate and advanced course, the "Jugendclub". There, you can also learn proper ballnight etiquette and pass a bronze, silver and gold dance diploma to reward your hard work. After having completed a season in one of the courses, our recent graduate Alice Hamberger founded a ballroom dance ECA during her senior year at BBIS. She was supported by her fellow student Sasha Schutt as

well as by the avid dancer and our beloved mathematics teacher Dr. Tatiana Uspenskaia. Our new geography teacher and former competitive ballroom dancer Ms. Emma Clack is planning on running an ECA again after Winter break.

If Dancing With The Stars or Le Bal des Débutantes in Paris inspires you to dance, you can also simply go to the open-air dance floor in the Monbijou Park in Summer (Photo 3), to Clärchen's Ballhaus in Winter, or the occasional dance events at the Mall of Berlin. And if this motivates you, ballroom dance might be considered to be included in future Olympic Games!

On a final note, before you start, I'd like to share with you one of the tips that our dance instructor gave us: "You and your partner should maintain a tension that is *Al Dente*. A solid frame at the inside that is soft on the outside".



Photo 1: "Bal musette" in Mouans-Sartoux, South France

Photo 2: Frühlingsball at the Hotel Intercontinental

Photo 3: Dancing open-air at the Strandbar Monbijou





SPLAT!



# Nobel Prizes in Physiology and Medicine 2018

## Awarded to James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo

By Jaqueline Breitzkreuz

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine is annually awarded for major discoveries in the medical field that led to benefit for humankind. It is one of the most prestigious and renowned awards a physician can receive (Grady, 2018). On the 1st of October, the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet pronounced the winners of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2018 to be James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo. The Nobel Prize committee stated that the doctors “established an entirely new principle for cancer therapy” (NobelPrize.org).

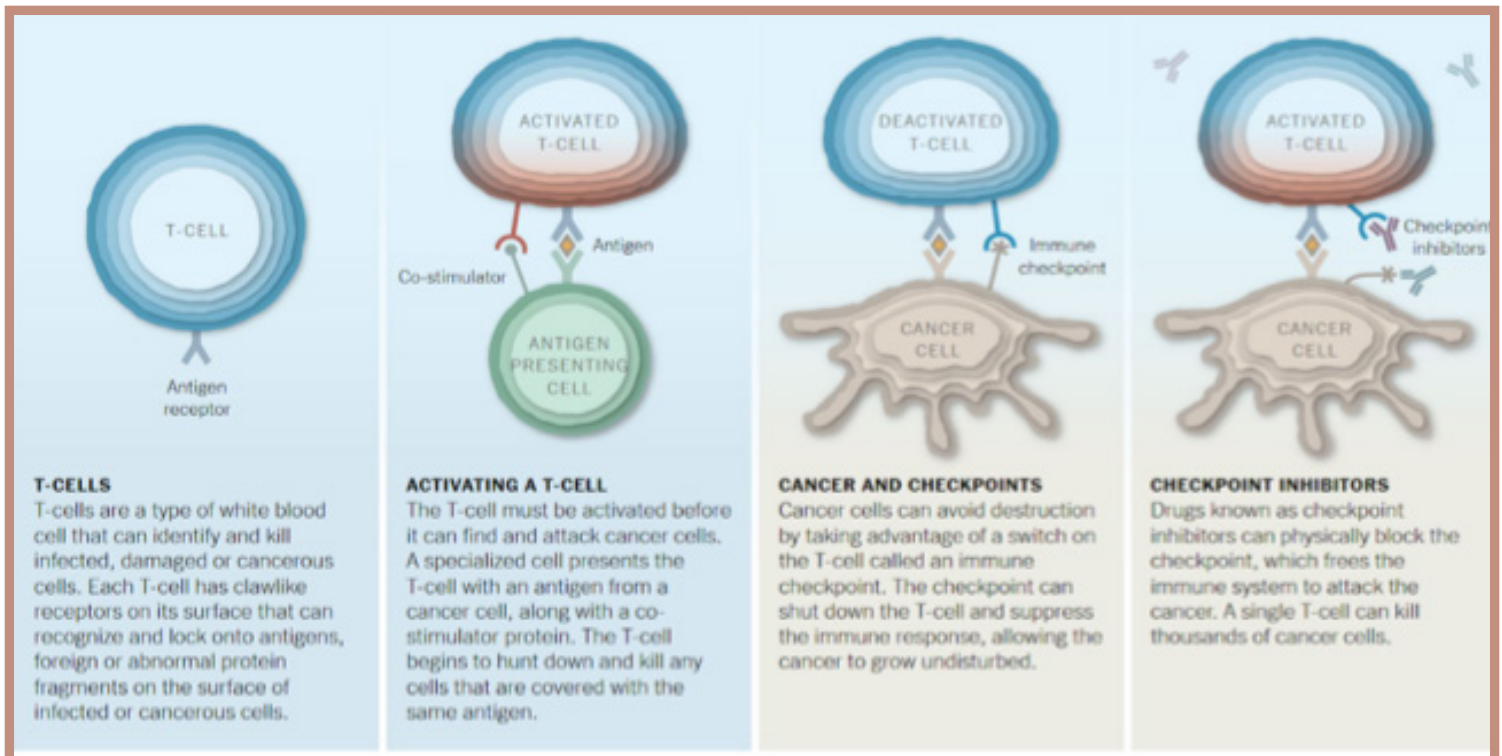
Dr. James P. Allison (70) is chairman of Immunology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. His work was recognized while working at the University of California at Berkeley and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Dr. Tasuku Honjo (76) is a professor at Kyoto University, where most of his work was published (Grady, 2018). The doctors were recognized for their groundbreaking parallel discoveries of “cancer

therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation” (NobelPrize.org). Allison and Honjo studied the ability of patients’ immune systems to attack tumor cells - abnormal malignant growths. In the U.S., Allison studied a known T-cell protein, CTLA-4, that functions as a “brake” on the immune system (NobelPrize.org). He saw potential in releasing the brake, thus causing the immune system to attack cancer cells, and a new and innovative approach to treatment of patients was established. Coextensively, Honjo discovered a protein on immune cells, PD-1, that has similar functions to Allison’s protein but uses different mechanisms. In clinical trials, Honjo proved his therapy to be “strikingly effective” for cancer treatment (NobelPrize.org). Allison and Honjo demonstrated how inhibition of proteins that act as brakes on our immune system can be utilized in the fight against cancer through two new therapies.

The effects of CTLA-4 and the PD-1 blockade have generated significant impacts on cancer research. It has now come to light that a treatment called “immune checkpoint therapy” can vastly affect the outcome for certain patients with advanced cancer. Naturally, side effects such as developing autoimmune diseases are possible, however it is said to be manageable and further research should aid in reducing side effects. From the two treatment strategies, Honjo’s checkpoint therapy against PD-1 has been more effective in recent clinical trials in treatment for lung cancer, renal cancer, lymphoma and melanoma. Moreover, it is also indicated that combining CTLA-4 and the PD-1 blockade treatments can be even more effective, as

demonstrated in patients with melanoma (NobelPrize.org). Allison and Honjo thus worked collaboratively in an attempt to maximize their potential cancer reducing strategies.

Checkpoint therapy by Allison and Honjo has changed the way scientists view our ability to treat cancer and may have revolutionized cancer treatment as a whole!







*"What Causes Ocean Pollution?"*



*"Turtle Cut Free From 6-Pack Rings Is Unstoppable 20 Years Later"*

# Our Oceans Suffer from Pollution

By: Isabel von Stein

Over 70% of the Earth's surface is covered by water, which is one of the most valuable natural resources on our planet. The hydrosphere is the home to most creatures on Earth, from microscopic algae to the blue whale. The ocean also feeds millions, provides shelter, and helps to clean the air. Naturally, the oceans are the endpoint in which all pollution ends up, no matter how far away we are from the coast.

Ocean acidification is one of the problems that the world's water bodies face. Almost a third of all human-made CO<sub>2</sub> emissions -- around 22 million tons per day -- is absorbed by our oceans. Scientists predict that by the end of this century, with the rate and amount our world produces of CO<sub>2</sub>, the pH level of our seas would decrease by 0.5, causing many shell-forming animals such as corals, oysters, lobsters and other organisms to suffer.

Plastic is one of the largest pollution problems that faces us today. With marine life becoming entangled with plastic, and fish and seagulls ingesting it, the material has caused us many complications. Unlike other trash, plastic does not biodegrade but instead breaks down into even more dangerous microplastics over time. It floats in the ocean, waiting for something to either ingest it or get entangled. With this being said, how does it come into the oceans? While some of it is dumped directly into the ocean, roughly 80% of it travels from in-land through sewers, rivers, storm drains, etc.

Ship pollution is a large source of ocean pollution, with the most calamitous and devastating effect being oil spills. Crude oil is extremely toxic to marine life, and can usually persist for years in the oceans, often choking or poisoning marine animals. Unfortunately, crude oil is also remarkably

difficult to clean up, which means that once it is spilled, it is there to stay.

Another form of pollution are the industrial and agricultural wastes that are discharged directly into the ocean. The disposal of toxic liquids in the ocean affect the marine life as they are chemically dangerous and additionally raise the temperature of the ocean, leading to thermal pollution. Animals and plants that cannot survive or thrive at higher temperatures will eventually become extinct.

# Life Behind Supermarkets: Review of Berliner Tafel

By Meila Heidt

Imagine a swathe of land as large as China, an area of 9.597 million km<sup>2</sup>. Now imagine that entire area being used to grow crops, to grow our food. Except, what if all of the food produced on this large scale of land is never even eaten? In fact, the annual food wasted globally weighs around 1.3 billion tonnes, and has a value of about \$1 trillion. That's the same value of Apple - the California-founded company that as of January 2016 had more than 450 Apple retail stores in operation around the world.

By putting this into the context of statistics, this means that an entire third of the food produced globally goes to waste. And the demand for the production of these crops is only rising, as the growing world population, predicted to increase to a total of 2.3 billion by 2050, requires more food.

With this in mind, more grocery stores are required to consider their actions, their habits of throwing out the enormous amounts of food. Germany is very well known for its recycling practices, and it is also home to a nationally known NGO (non-governmental organisation) found 25 years ago by a few women willing to change peoples lives: Berliner Tafel. When this organisation was still new, the women who founded the operation needed to explain their efforts each and every time to different grocery chain stores, to hotels, until they received their sponsors, allowing them to expand. Now, in 2018, this organisation has managed to save enough food to provide for 125,000 low income people at homeless shelters. With 45 stations in Berlin, more than 2000 volunteers take part in rescuing

food that is collected from over 600 grocery stores in the capital city (e.g. Edeka, Lidl, Penny, Aldi) and help distribute it around, as far as to homeless shelters. Not only does this NGO focus on hiring anyone over the age of 16, they also have a programme called "KIMBA" where each week a school class takes a trip to the abandoned and renovated train wagon in Berlin, in which they learn how to cook. Around 4000 children take part in only using rescued food to make fresh meals from scratch.

When volunteers are asked why they help out at this NGO, they say "My work required me to sit a lot, and when I was presented with the opportunity to help with a good cause, and at the same time get some physical movement, I jumped at the opportunity", as explained by Wolfgang, a retired judge in Berlin and a current volunteer who has been part of the two decade NGO for three years. "It's overwhelming and shocking, how much is thrown away, and still so much that is sorted is still thrown out again," he mentioned, when asked about his first reaction about the piles of food that is collected from supermarkets. "It is from A to Z useful, what Berliner Tafel achieves," he continued describing, "but there is still so much to do."

Because there are additional costs for throwing out compost, Berliner Tafel allows farmers to come buy and pick up food for their livestock, and they cooperate with a project carried out by a Berlin University to turn freshly thrown out food into soil, to give back to the earth. Scientists at the Freie Universitaet Berlin cooperate with the redistribution organisation, Berliner Tafel, as well as the local horticultural farm Bebra to look at how "biochar can be used to reduce the burden on the environment". Within this investigation project, "the researchers will design educational materials and hold workshops in the composting facilities in the Environmental Education Center Berlin, the Botanic Garden, and the Gutsgarten Hellersdorf" (fu-berlin.,2017).

And so the question remains, how can NGOs such as Berliner Tafel and scientist such as those at the Freie Universitaet Berlin help reduce food waste, even by a little? The answer is simple; by spreading their message. With more awareness comes greater action to rescue the environment. Berliner Tafel only contributes to the small part of the environment, yet it has already achieved so much by its redistribution programme. Food waste is not a myth, and it's not getting better with time. Unless we are able to recognise the consequences and the effects, it is hard to take action.





By: Naemi Ditiatkovsky

A couple of years ago, the school decided it would be beneficial to change the location of the 10th grade trip week. The previous destination was London, however, now it our hometown, Berlin! There was a lot of controversy surrounding whether this change was necessary or actually beneficial. Nevertheless, this year's grade 10 chose the latter and had the best time on the week of September 24th.

There were lots of highlights during the trip. Two experiences sparked the most fun and joy. The students definitely talked about these events the most and reflected on them.

**THE STREET ART AND GRAFFITI TOUR**- The whole grade participated in an insightful and very contemporary tour of East Berlin's graffiti. We were able to learn about the different groups that create this street art. The tour itself went around the S+U-bahn station of Warschauer straÙe, which is a part of Berlin that lots of students do not visit as it is further away. Then, we travelled further east to the region

of Lichtenberg, where we created our own spray paint pieces. This gave everyone a lot of creative freedom and the majority of the group really enjoyed this activity and day as a whole. The day finished at around two. This meant that people could have easily

**SELFIE SCAVENGER HUNT** - All the students teamed up in teams of six to see different popular monuments or just interesting locations. The challenge was to take a selfie at every assigned location with your whole team. Everyone had to use public transportation and find their way around. Some teams lived off of the adrenaline and had a lot of fun from racing to one station to another. Other teams got lost and walked a couple extra kilometers. And other teams just took their time by going to eat and snack at every location. It was really interesting because every team had different locations and a different experience as a whole.

There also were some pitfalls we fell into during the trip. This included,

the sushi workshop getting canceled or public transportation problems due to Erdogan's visit. Nevertheless, we decided to ignore this and have a great time anyways. This is why the school has a committee which reviews all MYP trip weeks and this year, we challenge the committee to include students. This would create an even more balanced trip between the staffs' and students' opinions and preferences, for the next grades to come. Has there ever been a museum you wanted to visit or a part of the city you have never been to? Bring this up! Since we are discovering the city of Berlin, the students and especially the newer students should have a say in what they want to discover.

Personally, I think that the grade 10 trip is definitely the undermined, so-called "staple" trip week every MYP 5 student should have. As the IBDP and IBCP programs are approaching the 10th grade students, the students should be able to have a relaxed trip in their diverse, interesting metropolises of a hometown.



# Reflecting on Grade 10's Trip Week The Berlin Metropolis



# BTEC takes Edinburgh!

by Yahli Bibi

IBCP is a program for those who enjoy and benefit from practical learning, real life experiences and engagement in their subjects. In order to further incorporate these wonderful aspects of IBCP learning, Travel & Tourism students and Art & Design students took a trip to Edinburgh, Scotland. Accompanied by Ms. van der Pol and Mr. Brodie, we got a glimpse of the beautiful city with a special lens.

Travel & Tourism students enjoyed a trip to the VisitScotland office where an interesting and informative presentation was showcased to us. We also got to visit Museum on the Mound, a museum located at the Bank of Scotland

head office, where we learned about money and its origins. We even got to forge our very own replicas of 13th century Scottish coins. Art & Design students, accompanied by their trusty sketch books, went to some workshops: including their very first nude drawing class. We also had joined activities where we got to see Edinburgh with our friends from the other BTEC including a trip to Napier University where we visited both the business and arts campuses and a visit to Camera Obscura, an optical illusion museum. The trip was a great experience and the perfect way to start off October.



# Portrait:

## ELON MUSK, FROM **BULLIED** to **BILLIONAIRE**

---

---



By Julius Behner

Elon Reeve Musk, also often referred to “Real-life Tony Stark” has been, possibly the most controversial entrepreneur in the world. This is his Story.

Elon Musk was born in 1971 in Pretoria, South Africa, his family consisted of him, his brother, his father, who was an electro-mechanical engineer and his mother, who was a model and dietician. During his childhood he was branded “geek” and therefore bullied. The situation worsened when his parents divorced and his mother moved to Canada while Musk and his brother stayed in South Africa. At the age of twelve he taught himself coding and programmed a game called Blastar which he then sold to a PC magazine for \$500. Musk eventually decided to move to Canada.

Certain things went wrong and Musk was forced to work strange jobs and at one point even live in a youth hostel.

After he had recovered from this situation, he enrolled at Queens University, New York and later transferred to the University of Pennsylvania. He graduated with a double major in Economics and Physics. He planned to enroll at Stanford University, California for a PhD in Physics, but dropped out two days later to become a part of the internet bubble.

In 1995 his first company was launched, Zip2, an online city guide. In 1999 Compaq Computer Corp. purchased Zip2 for \$302 million dollars. Elon Musk was now a part of silicon valley and the internet bubble. Musk then invested over half his earnings into co-founding X.com, also known as PayPal which was sold in 2002 for \$1.5 billion dollars. Musk used his earnings to complete his dream, send a rocket into space

# Withered Flowers

## *Short Story continued*

### Episode 5

#### Chapter 3: A Meal To Get To

The town felt empty once again, and it was full-dark. It was never a bright idea to be out at full-dark. He'd grown used to the feeling, but being alone wasn't comfortable for him. Robert was careful not to encounter any more wild dogs. He thought about Henry's offer, and grabbed his silver pocket watch. Maybe it would be better to decide tomorrow, he thought.

He entered his home through the white front door at the top of the steps. He unlatched the makeshift clasp and put his bat against the wall. Then Robert was greeted with an extinguished cheer from his excited twins and a faded kiss from his loving wife. He was hungry, but he prepared the flowers first. He cleaned them with drinking water and found a vase for them. They would be important the following day. The three red flowers shined together, like his family did.

When that task was completed, he started to prepare a warm dinner for himself and his family. On that day, the meal would be canned food, a delight, courtesy of the city. Unsurprisingly. Robert got out the cutlery. He placed a fork and a spoon at each of the four seats. HE then separated the result of his cooking into four bowls, and placed those at the seats as well. He ate with his family.

His wife asked about the day's adventure, and he told her about it in exciting detail. The twins looked at each other, and played with their food. Robert was sat across from his daughter, on the right of his son. His wife paused, looked down, and asked again if she could join him the next time. He told her that it was too dangerous, and brought up the raiders again. She said there was nothing to do, and that the kids knew to lock themselves in if there was danger. They stopped, looked down, and continued eating. Then it was his turn to ask what they had done that day.

Dinner ended shortly after that, and Robert elected to wash the dishes himself. He did so silently, using clean water and the remains of a sponge. He washed his hands and face. In the basement, he brought order to everything. He also added an entry in his pocket notebook on the leader of a band of forty strong.

Once everything was done, he brushed his teeth with an engineered toothpaste and set himself in bed. It had been pitch black out for a while, and he was ready for rest. Robert's wife shifted next to him, the children on a nearby mattress. He felt old that he needed less sleep. At one point, his son joined his parents in their bed, and his daughter too. He carried them away to their own bed once they fell asleep again, and waited to sleep himself.



The early morning was cold. He could see the smoke of fires from the library. It had rained over night. The ground was wet, and Robert thought about the holes in the library's roof through which he'd seen full-dark the night before. He held the three flowers in his hand. Without them, there wouldn't be a reason. His family was coming with him today. To visit the secret.

There were only a few clouds, but they suspiciously blocked out the sun. He walked with his family for a short while until they'd left the town and met the open field. "Far as the eye can see," he said again. No one reacted. The kids did ask him where they were going, and why. They didn't want to; they would rather have stayed. He told them that he'd built the secret nine years before on that day, and that they'd been there twice before already. They came here every three years together; that's how old they were. Sometimes he came alone when he got worried, but that didn't matter. This time was special.

They'd arrived at the place. The grass had grown tall, and he promised to come gain soon to cut it. He scanned around, and found the first stone. Maybe he could build a low wall around the field, he thought. Soon he saw the next one, and the next stone. He'd organized them into a grid, so finding the first meant the others were easy to realize as well. Most of them were different sizes but there were pairs and triplets that looked similar.

He followed the path he had made the years ago, flowers still in his right hand. Once he reached the center of the massive complex, Robert kneeled before the three most important stones there. The sky got darker. This is where the town's people were. Three stones, three flowers, three beautiful family members. A graveyard. The first stone had JUDITH MOORE, 2049-2074 scratched into it, with MOTHER under that. The second had ELANA MOORE scratched into it, with DAUGHTER under that. The final one had JONATHAN MOORE scratched into it, with SON under that. His son. Hours passed as he knelt before each one, staring at the ground. HE placed the flowers before the graves, and when he did each of the three memories with him withered away.

Robert knew they'd return to him eventually.

# Wolf Howls

## *Short Story continued*

### Chapter 3

By Moana Kammerer

If they had eaten recently they would be fine - but they had not. The problem was the avalanche would have chased prey far away, and buried all of the carcasses.

The wolves searched the land around them, but alas, all was a barren desert of snowy emptiness as far as the eye could reach...

Maybe, however, the ear could prevail where the eyes could not, for in the distance was the faint faint cawing of ravens. (ravens are special birds to wolves, they leave them alone: the cawing of ravens shows where a carcass is and the wolves can rip open the hide to the inside where the ravens can not get).

There was hope! It was a roe buck carcass, probably left by a frightened bear not knowing how far the avalanche would come. The wolves dragged themselves to the carcass and began to eat, of course in pack order.

They had survived, survived for now, but their den was buried, their hunting grounds barren, their bodies full of exhaustion, and helpless in the middle of harsh winter!

But wolves together are strong, and they put up their muzzles to howl in defiance at the sky!

# Humans of BBIS

Amit, grade 10: “Being at BBIS is not my first time in a multicultural community. I was at the International School of Frankfurt starting from the age of 12 years. Before that I had always been in a community in Israel with people that speak my mother tongue. I think identity is ... complicated! It’s the beliefs that you acquire when growing up, it’s how you see the world, it’s your personality, it’s how you express your opinion and it’s your behavior. I definitely experienced a change moving into this international environment. It was strange at first, I had never experienced something like that before, everything seemed so foreign. Everyone spoke and acted differently, but I was really drawn to that. I had American, British, and Korean friends. We were a group of girls with different backgrounds, but our common ground was English that we spoke to each other for practice. I used to be shy and not be confident, but this allowed me to speak up, because back home we only learned the language through paperwork. What also kept me shy in my country of origin were the societal expectations, but here we don’t have a predefined culture. We create a new norm and atmosphere together. I think that humans have something in common that goes beyond ethnicity and nationality. We are all looking for peace, happiness, a place of comfort where we feel safe. And when we’re new to an environment, it makes each of us vulnerable and fragile again.

## Quotation of the Month

In German class with Ms. Schmidt: “What is a novel?”

IB student: “Many words”.



Be good to yourself

.....  
Slow, calm and effective yoga  
& long relaxations  
.....

Fight winter blues & stress



Dark times are around the corner and unfortunately stress does not decrease as the year moves on.

**Lift your mood, feel more calm and relaxed** with Yoga sessions. Along the way you will learn tools to stay afloat.

Sign up & join **on Tuesdays until winter break from 3:10-4:30 pm in 3205 across the MPR, starting Nov. 6th**

See you soon, Elke