

THE ECLIPSE

Illuminating News by East-West Students



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R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

Find out what respect means to the community members of East-West

By Tiffany Jiang, Grade 7

Respect. It's a word we hear all the time, and yet many of us don't exercise it on a regular basis. In an effort to help students and staff remember the importance of respect, East-West participated in "Respect for All Week" February 13-17, 2017.

Organized by Ms. LaRocca, this week is really meant to understand the feelings of others, without judgement. Do you ever feel you are treated unfairly by other students? Do they interrupt you when you are speaking or care more about your hairstyle than they do about your thoughts? Do you ever feel self-conscious or anxious about what others

might say about you? You are not alone. Thankfully, "Respect for All Week" reminds us of what it means to respect others. Stefanie Bang from 703 stated, "Respect is when you are aware of other people's feelings." Leslie Guevara from 701 stated, "Respect is being kind to other people and treating them equally."

Yuming Tang from 703 remarked, "Understanding what other people feel is what respect is about; we have to have sympathy for others." Britney Ju from 701 stated, "Respect means that even if you do not get along with someone, you still have to acknowledge their efforts and understand their feelings as well."

Respect makes for a better community for all of us. Keeping the lessons of "Respect For All Week" in the back of our minds is important.

East-West's Annual Night Market Event is a Smashing Success!

Check out our photos and comments below

By The Eclipse Staff



Why did you come to the Night Market tonight? What did you hope to gain from being here?

"I like celebrating Chinese New Year with the East-West community, to eat the food and see students happy." - Mr. Sherman

"I came here for the food and the company." - Ms. Kate Kim

What was your favorite game at Night Market?

"My favorite game is the Robin Hood Archer Game. It's the only game that I'm good at." - Mr. Sherman

"The Robin Hood Archer Game." - Rebecca Xie, 602

Does Night Market make you appreciate Chinese culture more? Why or why not?

"Yes. When my family celebrates Chinese New Year it is usually traditional. But this Night Market is a lot more fun; there is tons of games and delicious food." - Mr. Sherman

"Yes, it was fun and cool." - Rebecca Xie, 602

Do you have anything else you wish to tell us about your Night Market experience?

"I want to say thank you to Ms. He for organizing the Night Market event." - Mr. Sherman

"I'll definitely help again next year." - Rebecca Xie, 602



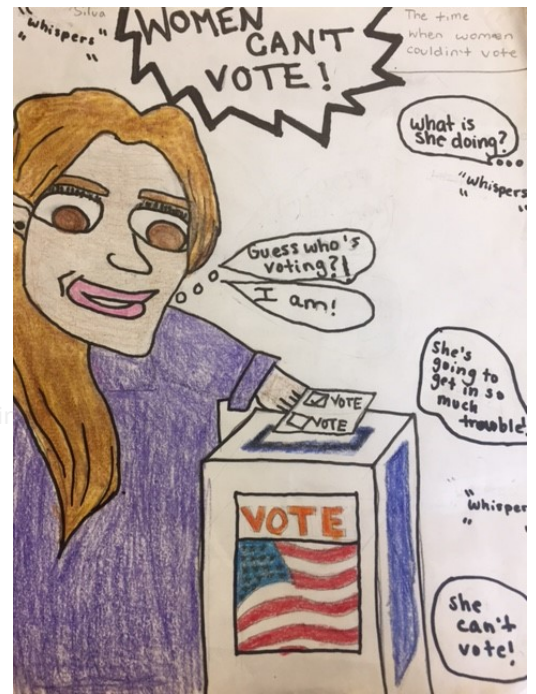
East-West Celebrates Presidents' Day

What do you do on this special holiday?

By Angela Li, Grade 6

George Washington was born on February 22, 1732. In the United States, we celebrate his "birthday" on the third Monday of February, each year. This special birthday is now referred to as Presidents' Day, a day in which we remember all the great Presidents of the United States. So how do East-West students celebrate Presidents' Day? Senior, Krystal Guthrie, celebrates Presidents' Day by cooking her a dish she knows was a president's favorite food. Senior, Janell Dwyer said she celebrates by watching TV shows about past presidents.

President's Day is significant because it gives Americans a chance to remember how important it is to uphold the beliefs this country is founded upon. These beliefs are liberty, freedom, and justice for all. Happy Presidents' Day everyone!



Throwback to women gaining the right to vote! Cartoon by Francesca Silva, Grade 6

The Palestine-Israel Conflict

Coverage of Mr. Oppenheim's Class Debate

By Jhey Dizon, Grade 6

Palestine and Israel have been fighting over the same land for years. Students in Mr. Oppenheim's sixth grade Social Studies class took sides, representing various countries and interests. The debate lasted 3 days, culminating in the United Nations deciding who won.

Both sides desperately wanted what they felt was their land. Israel's spokesperson, Benny Ye stated, "we plan on using Palestine representatives' own actions against them." Benny was talking about Palestine's numerous terrorist records. On the side of Palestine Richard Chen said that their strategy was to "Get Fired Up" and to "Bomb" Israel. Eric Celerio, a representative of Palestine, said he responded to the U.N.'s questions by asking more questions.

Israel's main statement was mainly that they wanted peace and if Palestine agreed, they would take down the wall and the settlements, and Palestine's main statement was that they also want peace, but their land back. They wanted their land back, and Israeli settlements off, along with the wall, and then they would stop attacking. Israel's main pushing force was that Palestine's many terrorist records against Israel proves that they cannot hold peace, and that they are not ready for the responsibility of a country. Plus with Palestine's crumbling economy they wouldn't be ready, and as Ivy Gao said "as a country they could buy weapons and amass an army." On the side of Pal-

estine, Joey Huang commented, "We Need to be a country because of our problem with water, and as a country, we could gain access to wells for our people."

The U.N. asked a multitude of questions. U.N. representative, Calvin Liu asked, "according to my research from 2000-2014, out of 15 people killed; two are Israeli and 13 are Palestinian. Is this fair?" Israeli representative, Christopher Nup replied, "Yes, according to my passage, it says Gaza and Israel bombed each other, but Palestine bombed us first so it's their fault."

Palestinian representative, Eric Celerio noted, "It's not fair that our people are being massacred; we have rights too, the same as Israel." He went on to remark that, "the wall breaks international human rights laws when the wall was built since it separated communities."

On Friday, the U.N. decided who had won the debate, and it was well fought, but only one could win. The winner was Palestine!

Jackson Gao was the tiebreaker, and he cast his vote for Palestine because "Palestine disputes better and Israel prevents Palestine from doing anything."

I agree with the U.N.'s vote for Palestine mostly because I feel Palestinians are like refugees in their homeland. Palestine may have lost if Israel talked more about Fatah, PLO, or Hamas, since they were on the topic of terrorism, and since Palestine wanted Israeli settlements off their land, they could have blamed and disagreed with Zionism.

The debate continues.

Dear Veiled Dragon,

My parents have always encouraged me to speak up for myself and to have good self esteem. However, this seems to be only encouraged if it doesn't go against what they believe or want for me. How can I explain to them that the person they have encouraged me to be able to speak up in all situations and not just when it's convenient or favorable for them? If I'm to be truthful to my own opinions, I shouldn't have to go against my own beliefs to make them happy. *-Daring Student*

Dear Daring Student,

The fact that you are considering what your parents want is a good thing. Parents mean well for you. However, you also have to start making your own choices about who you are and what you want. This means listening to your parents but also thinking on your own. Having an independent mind is a good thing. Your parents love you; it's just that they tell you what decisions to make because they are afraid you might do something that you'll regret. Don't worry. Failing is part of life. What is important is how you react to failure. *-The Veiled Dragon*



-The Veiled Dragon

Why Not a Husky?

Thinking about getting a dog? Consider a husky!

By Zhen Zhen Tao, Grade 6

Huskies, known mostly for their similar appearance to wolves, have blue eyes and gray and white coats. They are often pictured pulling sleds through the snow. Huskies can sprint for an hour without getting tired. Some huskies like to dig, too. Even in the snow huskies stay warm because of their thick fur coats.

Huskies are easy to train but they will only listen to the trainer if they think the trainer deserves to be listened to. One method of training huskies includes teaching specific words in specific tones so that husky not only learns the words but also develops a respectful attitude toward his owner.

Huskies are good dogs if you have a lot of space. They enjoy being outside and can stand very cold weather.



Long Live The Shark!

Evidence suggests that sharks will outlive humans!

By Joseph Chai, Grade 7



Have you ever wondered about life before humans? Sharks have been able to survive millions of years because of their uniqueness, adaptation, and level of knowledge. There is a name of a large massacre called “The Great Dying.” The cause of “The Great Dying” was that there was an increase of carbon dioxide, and chlorofluorocarbons, and other gases in the atmosphere. This was caused by climate change, and geographical changes, most likely linked to a build up of pressure under the Earth’s tectonic plates. This event in history happened about 250 million years ago, and it killed most of the ocean’s species, except sharks. Sharks survived because they hid in water caves, and other naturally protected areas. In the future, we may need to borrow the shark’s grit and perseverance to survive the changes of our world.

Graffiti Creations

Can Graffiti Ever Be Considered Art?

By Shahram Rahman, Editor-in-Chief, Grade 11

By definition, graffiti is a writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place. In New York City, graffiti is everywhere. Graffiti has many purposes ranging from a way to express a political view to a form of sharing an opinion about another person. Many feel graffiti is an art form because it contains many symbols and can be very beautiful. Despite this opinion, creating graffiti on a public space remains illegal; artists take a huge risk in committing these acts of spraying or painting graffiti.

Take the 5 Pointz Building in Long Island City as an example of how our the federal government promotes the criminalization of graffiti artists. The 5 Pointz Building was an American mural space, or graffiti space, where the graffiti was exhibited mainly of the exterior wall of the building. Art from an array of international artists filled the walls. If you took dance class in the past year, then you should already be familiar with the building. You should also know that the 5-pointz building was bulldozed, knocked down, jettisoned, and completely destroyed. On the 5 Pointz website, it states that over the past years, this signifying graffiti-covered building has



“attracted several hip-hop and R&B stars.” The destruction of this warehouse took a significant toll on the people of America and the world by removing from our society, a significant cultural monument. In response to talk of destruction, before the building was knocked down, artists sprayed “art murder” in big blue and red letters of the building to portray artists’ disapproval of the government allowing 5 Pointz to be bulldozed.

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A Valentine's Day Treat

Who needs chocolate when you've got cupcakes!

By Annie Dong, Grade 6

Valentine's Day is a day where many people exchange cards, flowers, candies or gifts to their special someone to express their love for them. It is celebrated on February 14 annually. As you may or may not know at least 36 million boxes of heart shape chocolates are sold every year on Valentine's Day. It is the second most popular day of the year for sending cards, Christmas being the first. Approximately 50 million roses are given around the world on Valentine's Day.

Below is a great Valentine's Day recipe, Red Velvet Cupcakes. Try it out at home!

Red Velvet cupcakes are chocolate cupcakes with either a red, bright red or red-brown color cake. They are commonly served on Valentine's Day.

Ingredients:

- ~½ cup butter
- ~1 ½ cups white sugar
- ~2 eggs
- ~1 cup buttermilk
- ~1 fluid ounce of red food coloring
- ~1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ~1 ½ teaspoons baking soda
- ~2 cups all-purpose flour
- ~1 tablespoon distilled white vinegar

~⅓ cup unsweetened cocoa powder

~1 teaspoon salt

Directions:

1. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees) Grease two 12-cup muffin pans or line with 20 paper baking cups.
2. In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Mix in the eggs, buttermilk, red food coloring and vanilla. Stir in the baking soda and vinegar. Combine the flour, cocoa powder and salt; stir into the batter just until blended. Spoon the batter into the prepared cups, dividing evenly.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until the tops spring back when lightly pressed, 20 to 25 minutes. Cool in the pan set over a wire rack. When cool, arrange the cupcakes on a serving platter and frost with desired frosting.
4. Enjoy your cupcakes!



Soup Dumplings 小笼包/小籠包

If you haven't tried these, you're missing out!

By Christina Wong, Grade 6

Have you ever tried Chinese soup dumplings? If not, you should go try them. They originated in China, around 1875, in Nanjing. There the soup dumplings expanded to other places such as Shanghai. They look like a little like a lumpy cone shape with lumpy sides. Today, you can find soup dumplings all over the country. In New York, you can find soup dumplings at Nan Xiang Xiao Long Bao in Flushing and at Joe's Shanghai located in Flushing and in Chinatown in Manhattan.

Soup Dumplings taste sour and sweet when you dip them into the dipping sauce which is usually a combo of vinegar and soy sauce. *Wuxi* style dumplings taste sweeter Shanghai dumplings. In the picture to the right, you see soup dumplings placed in a bamboo steamer. Picking up soup dumplings with

chopsticks and a spoon, and managing to suck out the hot soup in the middle can be challenging but is totally worth it! It's a great dish to try in the winter time.



(continued from page 3, *Graffiti Creations*)

Even though graffiti is not an accepted form of political perspective or dialogue does not mean that it does not contain power and important messages. ,

The only drawback of graffiti is that it can become excessive and can contain profanity or inappropriate words. These drawbacks are small, however, compared to the good that graffiti brings.

The main argument here is that graffiti seems to serve as part of what ameliorates American societal issues. The fact the graffiti is mostly used to express opinions about a specific concept or idea suggests what the artists are expressing the need to take action for what they are representing in their art, specifically

their graffiti. This may be similar to America's Progressive era during the late 1800s and early 1900s, where Progressive journalists attempted to also change America's society for the better specifically by delineating the problems existing in the federal government and American society and exposing it to the society and the government. Similarly, these graffiti artists are attempting to do the same thing but with a different method, which is their art, graffiti. But really, if one were to distinguish between graffiti and art, there wouldn't be anything to distinguish, because graffiti is art, without question.