



Students Extra!

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A Letter From the Editors:

Dear students,

It's almost Easter! The excitement and joy of a two week break must be kicking in, but we hope you made sure to leave enough of that energy for Sports days this week! (P.S. Go Fire and Air!)

Also, we'd like to congratulate the students on the money raised for victims in Japan (\$845!). That just shows what the school community can really do when we come together. Every year, when we've put our mind to supporting a cause, whether its sheltering animals, helping natural disaster survivors or those less fortunate than us, we've exceeded our expectations, and worked above and beyond to help those in need (let's keep it up!)

This past week has been all about the anticipation of the Easter holidays but it's also been a week to celebrate the achievements throughout our school over the past term. We would just like to congratulate everyone that was been awarded over the

past week during celebration assemblies and hope that the outstanding achievements continue. Another way in which the new rewards system has celebrated achievement, especially in upper school, is the free dress day that has been awarded to students who have achieved a specified amount of House Merits and House Points. As students ourselves, it's exciting to see the changes in the rewards system as well as how beneficial and motivational they are, not only to younger students but also to older students like us.

Speaking of achievements, from Students Extra we wish good luck to all the IB students who will return to sit their exams after the Easter holidays. We know you will do our school proud. Until the next issue of Students Extra,

Thank you,

Editor: Kelsey Young

Assistant Editor: Abinaya Chandrasekar



Turmeric!-Jamie Harris

Hey Everyone,

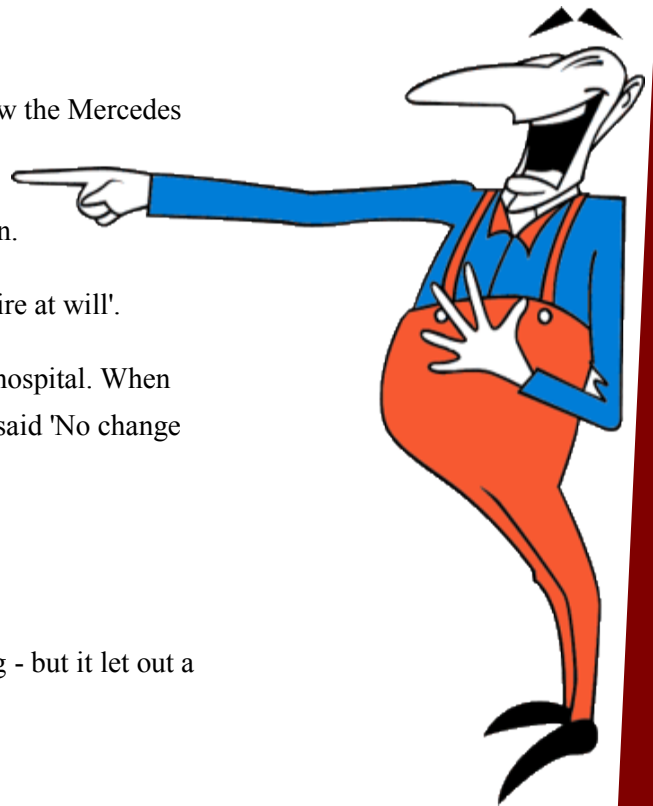
Here's one I recommend you don't try at home. New research has been found on the properties of the spice turmeric, which some of you may know as already having health benefits. What you may not know however is that it can be used to detect explosives. That's right, explosives! It seems that under darkness, turmeric emits coloured light, much like tonic water does under a UV light. This emetine changes however, depending on how much molecules of explosive are in the air. This 'fluorescence spectroscopy' can therefore measure how much explosive's are around (example TNT) as the intensity of light can change if different molecules bind to the fluorescent ones. To do this however it must be dissolved in a liquid, polydimethylsiloxane to be precise.



Puns!-Kelsey Young

So this week it occurred to me that I wasn't the only one in my year group that liked puns. I thought that maybe I would share a few with the rest of you, so you'd have something to laugh (or mock) over the holidays. Just a reminder, I didn't make any of these up!

1. I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.
2. I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.
3. Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.
4. I couldn't quite remember how to throw a boomerang, but eventually it came back to me.
5. I was going to look for my missing watch, but I could never find the time.
6. He drove his expensive car into a tree and found out how the Mercedes bends.
7. A new type of broom came out, it is sweeping the nation.
8. When William joined the army he disliked the phrase 'fire at will'.
9. A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was a nurse said 'No change yet'.
10. When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds\
11. What did the grape say when it got stepped on? Nothing - but it let out a little whine.
12. Cartoonist found dead in home. Details are sketchy.
13. Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat says to the other, 'You stay here, I'll go on a head.'
14. I get my large circumference from too much pi.
15. It's better to love a short girl than not a tall.
16. The coffee tasted like mud because it was ground a couple of minutes ago.



What Started April Fools?

So what issue of Students Extra is complete without a little bit of history about your favorite holidays? Many of the ancient cultures such as Romans and Hindus and the medieval Europeans used to celebrate New Year's Day between March 20th and April 5th. In the Julian calendar, April 1st was designated as the New Year's Day and was celebrated like that until 1582, when Pope Gregory XIII decided on the new Gregorian Calendar, which specified January 1st as the New Year's Day. However, people were unwilling to change their traditions, many people continued to celebrate New Year's Day on 1st of April. Scottish only adopted the new calendar in 1660, Germans, Danish and Norwegians in 1700 and English in 1752.

Many French in particular resisted the change and dubbed them as fools to change the tradition. They played pranks on them to prove their point. They started sending them on 'fool's errands', sent them the fake invitations for parties and tricked them into believing something false. The victims were called 'Poisson d'Avril' or 'April Fish' as the naïve fish gets caught easily and children would often tag of a fish's picture on someone's back. Thus, April Fool's Day originated and was popularly celebrated in England and in the American colonies. It evolved and was caught on quickly throughout the world to trick each other and have fun. Even today, people play pranks on each other on this day in the memory of those tradition-obsessed 'fools'.

Perhaps the best illustration of the April Fool's Pranks of the 19th century is the Thomas Nast's illustration, originally published in the April 2, 1864 issue of Harper's Weekly. It highlights the various pranks that were popularly played at the time with its caption as 'All Fool's Day'.

Some of the pranks shown here include women visiting an older man wearing beards and moustaches, Civil War Soldiers tricking each other such as a soldier barring the view by holding his hand on in front of the binoculars of a friend and a sailor doing the same by holding his hat over the telescope of a friend. Another trick was to write 'Old Fool' on a school teacher's back.

Not that I want to give any ideas to for next year...
=)



A Special Thanks!

We would like to give a special thanks to the following people who have helped to transform the student newsletter.

Chae Ramnarace: Tech Columnist

Christopher Ramnarace: Formatting and Design

Jamie Harris: Science columnist

Abinaya Chandrasekar: SE Assistant Editor

Kelsey Young: SE editor



We need your help!

Although we have many Columns for Students Extra we still your help to make this newsletter something special, and something YOU want to read. If you have any suggestions or contributions please send them in, and maybe you'll see your article in the next issue of StudentsExtra!

We welcome any of your ideas, and we hope that you've enjoyed this months brand new issue of StudentsExtra!

**"Email us at
newspaper.bsh@live.com!"**

