



Point of View

The Student Newspaper of Ivy Collegiate School

MARCH 2021

The First ICS Elementary Annual Spelling Bee

by SOPHIA KIM, ELENA BAE

This year we have a new event in Elementary. The new event is the “Spelling Bee”. We think everyone might be very excited. We interviewed some students and staff of the spelling bee.

First, we asked a student named “Leo Lee” first.

Q1: How do you feel about the spelling bee?

A1: I feel nervous.

Q2: Are you ready for the spelling bee?

A2: I am not ready for the spelling bee.

Q3: Have you been studying for the spelling bee?

A3: I did not study at all.

We also asked a student named “Lumi Kim” next.

Q1: How do you feel about the spelling bee?

A1: I feel nervous.

Q2: Are you ready for the spelling bee?

A2: No I’m not.

Q3: Have you been studying for the spelling bee?

A3: I studied half of the words(about 50 words).

We also interviewed the staff of the spelling bee, Mrs. Delis and Mrs. Cho. We interviewed Mrs. Delis first.

Q1: Do you think your homeroom will win?

A1: I hope our homeroom will win!

Q2: Who will be the judges?

A2: We didn’t choose the judges YET, but it will be an elementary teacher.

Lastly, we interviewed Mrs. Cho, about decorations.

Q1: Do you think your homeroom will win?

A1: I don’t think we will but I will be happy if we do.

Q2: How and what will you decorate the stages with?

A2: We are still buying stuff but I think it will involve light bulbs, a microphone, background music, PowerPoint presentation, and sparkly things.

Q3: What set will go first?

A3: Set 1 will go first, Set 2 is next, and on...

We are very excited about the first spelling bee and teachers are working very hard too. They have less time to sleep because they are preparing hard for the spelling bee. I hope you enjoyed our article and practice for the spelling bee!

The First Annual ICS Spelling Bee

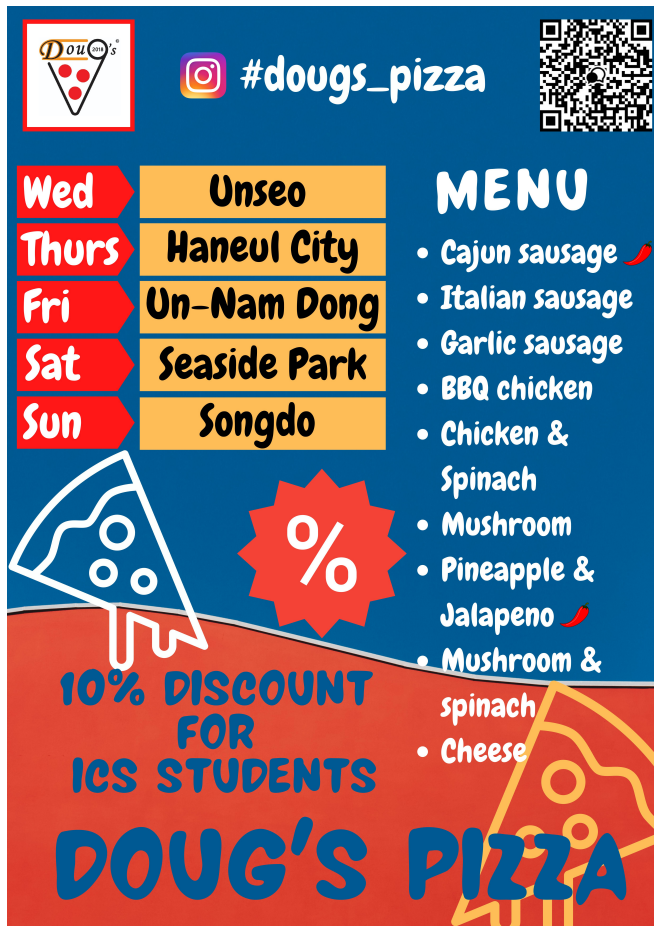
by MATTHEW PARK, ALEX KIM

This year we have ICS’s first annual Spelling Bee. The Spelling Bee is going to happen on March 25th, 2021, Thursday. There will be a live video showing the Spelling Bee on Zoom. The Set 4s are the first and the Set 3s are the last (Order: Set 4, Set 1, Set 2, and Set 3).

We interviewed a few people. We interviewed Leo, Lumi, Mrs. Delis, and Mrs. Cho. We asked a few questions. Leo and Lumi had almost the same answers. They both feel nervous about the Spelling bee, they’re both not ready for the Spelling Bee. Leo didn’t study at all for the Spelling Bee, but on the other side Lumi said “I studied half.” Both teachers said, “I feel nervous and excited.” The judges are one of the elementary teachers, but we don’t know who.

In the ICS’s first annual Spelling Bee, there are exciting prizes. The 3rd place gets a 10,000 won gift card for the bookstore and a medal(medal can be owned forever). The 2nd place gets a 20,000 won gift card for the bookstore and a medal. The 1st place gets a board game, a book from the United States, and a medal. Each medal will write 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

There will be a Spelling Bee raffle after the Spelling Bee. There are a lot of prizes for the raffle. The grand prize will be Tablet A(not Tablet A7). There are other prizes like gift cards for Baskin-Robbins and Starbucks, school uniforms, massages at Bella Thai, and board games. Check the cabinet that's next to the entrance.



Doug's #dougs_pizza

Wed Unseo
Thurs Haneul City
Fri Un-Nam Dong
Sat Seaside Park
Sun Songdo

MENU

- Cajun sausage
- Italian sausage
- Garlic sausage
- BBQ chicken
- Chicken & Spinach
- Mushroom
- Pineapple & Jalapeno
- Mushroom & spinach
- Cheese

10% DISCOUNT FOR ICS STUDENTS

DOUG'S PIZZA

attention from the industry as an "innovative mask" since it was unveiled to the global market at the IFA 2020 virtual exhibition hall, which was held online in September. The official name of the mask is LG Puricare Wearable Air Purifier. Different from regular masks, the LG Puricare electronic mask is made of plastic material and has two fans on both sides of the front. By installing a replaceable hepa filter (H13 grade) in front of those two fans, fine dust and viruses are closely filtered through the hepa filter when air enters the fan. In addition, it can be double filtered because it is equipped with replaceable inner pads (grade KF94) inside the mask. As a feature, it has a sensor that detects the pressure that occurs when breathing and an algorithm that automatically controls the amount of wind. Unlike ordinary masks made of non-woven fabric, these features allow you to breathe comfortably for a long period of use. Even when you exercise, regular masks are moistened inside, but the advantage of this mask is that it does not get damp because of the fans. However, there are also certain disadvantages. Of course, we use the fan, so we need to charge it, but the charging time is about 2 hours and the actual usage time is 4 hours to 8 hours. It could be a bad thing for people who have to stay outside with masks on for a long time. The price is 160 dollars (about 180,000 won) and it is very expensive for a mask. Also, the fatal disadvantage is that while masks are made in Korea, but it is not released in Korea. It has been released in Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Iraq but not Korea. This means that if you buy it, you have to ship it overseas, so there may be an additional charge. The reason is that LG has not yet received a medical certificate from the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety. Anyway, it was so popular that it was sold out when it was released in the early stages. Personally, I think many types of masks are being released and evolving because of the COVID-19.

LG Makes Another Great Leap in Mask Industry

by JUNWON LEE

Because of the COVID-19, masks have become a daily necessity. Also, it has become a daily routine to not even know each other's faces properly. While masks have become a necessity for life, LG released an innovative mask last September. It is an electronic mask with a very small air purifier. It has drawn

Choose Your Own Adventure—with AI

by JOON KIM

We have all dreamt of having an exciting adventure in our childhood. Sometimes, you explored the jungle

looking for hidden treasures like Indiana Jones; or maybe, you battled with the evil villains to save Earth. In this vein, people have desired to escape from reality and experience the thrilling events of the books or the movies. Consequently, the attempts to provide more interactive content have continued for a long time. Choose Your Own Adventure, a book series published since 1979, gained tremendous popularity for young consumers. In the second-person view, the readers could choose their action as a protagonist in each scene, and the plot changed based on their actions. The fact that the book contained lively interaction unlike others, led to the great success of the series.

Technology has developed even further nowadays, and Nick Walton—from Brigham Young University’s ‘Perception, Control, and Cognition’ laboratory—came up with the idea of applying it to make an interactive text adventure game: AI Dungeon. As its name already implies, AI Dungeon is entirely based on the Open AI’s language-generating neural network, Generative Pre-trained Transformer 3 (GPT-3). What AI Dungeon does is similar to that of a Dungeon Master of Dungeons & Dragons; it first begins the story, receives one of the three types of input (Do, Say, and Story) from the users, and generates the next chunk of the text—which GPT-3 plays a crucial role in.

With deep learning, the GPT-3 model in AI Dungeon continuously expands its data set. Indeed, the entire system started training with only 30MB of text adventures obtained from web scraping, but has now grown up to a global scale. In the large set of word combinations and adventure plots, the module finds the most “probable” development after the user input with the best word choices. For instance, when the user decides to attack the monster in a “Fantasy” setting, it rather says “You raise your shield and strike at the dragon’s snout, but miss,” than “You pounce forward, swinging your cyborg arm,” since the previous text is more feasible based on the stories it has read. In fact, even the texts used as the examples above are generated by AI Dungeon each in the different settings of “Fantasy” and “Cyberpunk.”

However, even though AI Dungeon now acquires gigantic volumes of data, limitations still exist: language inarticulateness and lack of improvisation. It is a fact that sentence coherence of the writings of AI Dungeon have reached close to the human-

level, but it yet shows imperfection in the sentence structures or plot development. Furthermore, since the AI Dungeon creates stories in the complete sentence structure, the text becomes excessively formal. What’s more, when the player gives an entirely unexpected response not existing in its database, then it returns a nonsensical story—while a normal human would have attempted to draw connections between the response and the plot; this is similar to how AlphaGo reacted to the unexpected play of Sedol Lee in the fourth game. Nonetheless, as AlphaGo showed an even more developed performance in later matches with Ke Jie, AI Dungeon will evolve and possibly reach the level of legendary fantasy writers like J.R.R. Tolkien—or even further.

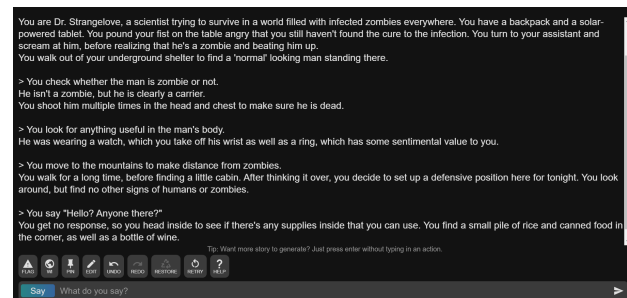


Image Source: AI Dungeon

Do You Remember this Girl?

by YEONWOO PARK



Image Source: BuzzFeed

Do you remember this girl? November 26th, 2019, a makeup tutorial video was posted on the viral social media platform, TikTok, and by 2021 March everything stayed the same. The videos posted by Feroza Aziz (19) seemed like ordinary makeup videos until the moment of truth broke in. The video actually accused the Chinese governments of killing, sexually

harassing, and abducting Muslim minority group, Uyghurs. Feroza Aziz referred to this horrible situation as “another genocide.” Yet in 2021, the problem was officially introduced to the public, but everything stayed the same as before.

Why? TikTok is truly the most viral social media platform in China, and this video also went viral by getting more than 5,000,000 views in a short period. The heartbreaking fact is no actions were taken by the Chinese nor did anyone talk about this issue. China is famous for its strict regulations on social media platforms. More than 100 websites are still restricted from China in the 21st century. It is very suspicious that even though TikTok is one of the most popular social media in China, videos aren’t even being addressed in the country as a debatable topic. The video by Vice News had revealed many unknown truths including this mystery. Local Chinese believe the Uyghurs are ruining the unity in their community, and that was a reason for the support in massive elimination in Uyghur culture. Those ideas were kept the local Chinese unity. Chinese citizens believe and support the action taken by the authorities; however, the weird part comes from here.

China’s education center for Uyghurs? The official announcement by Chinese authorities was the opposite of what locals believed. The officials stated that the camps were ‘education centers’ to help out the Uyghurs in the Xinjiang areas. In the video by Vice News, the so-called education center was surrounded by barricades that didn’t suit the educational center, especially for young children, and considering the beliefs of the locals, something is happening in Xinjiang.

The Xinjiang province is well known for the numerous surveillance cameras around the city. As you walk down the streets of Xinjiang, you can easily find out the local policies looking over the streets and the cameras recording every single breath you take. You also need a passport always by your side, in case you want a warm cup of coffee at a cafe. Even when you enter the cafe, you still have several cameras looking down at you. Every single action you take is recorded carefully in Xinjiang province in China.

The end? Almost two years have passed since the video by Peroza Aziz, but nothing has changed. The videos alleging the Chinese government are now on the platform and also being shared widely, however, everything stops there. The good news is the consis-

tent attention is shown by the public. The sad fact is only people who know about this issue stay tuned for the upcoming reports. To change the current situation, consistent attention by a larger scale of people is in need.

Students in Prison: Locked Up for 12 Years

by LEAH HAN

During the past century, our society has developed continuously. In modern days, people use the latest design of smartphones, ride highly developed vehicles, and enjoy traveling overseas by airplane with high-quality meals, the newest movies, and wide seats prepared for convenience. However, there is one thing that has not changed in the past centuries. It is the “school”, which is one of the places students spend most of their childhood and teenage years. Unfortunately, in the Korean language, the phrase “being different” is often misused as “being wrong”. All Korean students have learned how to go along with others. They were enforced to have the same thought as others, and try to become similar to each other in a group. These days, if someone wears a vivid-colored cloth on the street, people will think of him as a mentally disturbed person who begs for attention, rather than thinking that he just has a unique fashion sense. Some schools were built more than a century ago, and some were built just a few years ago. But no matter when they were constructed, the common idea they share is the stereotype that all students should study in the same environment. Due to this, in school, students are forced to wear the same clothes, eat the same thing served on the same food tray, and stay in the same-looking classrooms in the same-looking school building for 12 years. People even suggest that prisons provide a better system than the same-looking schools all over the country. To develop the students’ learning environment, people have to make big and small changes to society. Some students performs better at dancing than solving equation problems in math. Everybody is born different. Even identical twins are different. With the difference, people can learn from each other. To break the

stereotype, people should come up with new designs, a better learning system, and improvements to the school. As society slowly changes, we will be able to make schools and students enjoy the benefit of one of the greatest virtues, diversity.

↓ School Field (Top) / Prison (Bottom)



Image Source: ZUM News

2021 Myanmar Protest - The Fight for Democracy

by JINWOO HWANG

2021, February 1. Myanmar experienced a coup, and the army has taken over the government once again. The people in Myanmar, however, do not agree with the new government, since they did not want to lose the democratic rights they received with difficulty.

The protests first appeared outside of Myanmar, like in neighboring countries such as Thailand and even countries far away like the United States. Then due to SNS and small movements in Myanmar, the protest size grew rapidly. The majority of the protests were non-violent, peaceful protests.

However, the military government answered the protests in the worst way they could. The army and police were sent to oppress the protesters, which started by shooting water or rubber balls directly at them. The targets were not only the protesters.

Journalists and civilians, who were not included in the protests also became a target. As days passed the government's response became more violent. In a few days, the government ordered the army to shoot at the protesters directly, which killed or seriously injured multiples. The level of shooting was not low. The army aimed at the protesters' heads, using machine guns and even snipers, which shows the deadly message of the government to the protesters. Several people were killed and hundreds were arrested by the army and police brutally.

The military government of Myanmar is denying most of the rumors that are on the surface. Machine guns were used on children, shooting their faces for harder identification, digging out bodies of the protesters, assaulting and shooting medical volunteers, using snipers, and ordering to massacre civilians. The government is shutting down SNS services in Myanmar, checking any civilians with phones on the streets, and even forming a government-friendly protest to create conflicts. These responses of the government resulted in the protesters getting armed and resisting against the army, which increases the possibility for a civil war to happen in Myanmar.

The international response is negative against these inhuman actions of the military government of Myanmar. Multiple countries are giving disadvantages to Myanmar's government and making statements that Myanmar must stop these actions. President Moon has also criticized the Myanmar government and made a statement that supports the protest. Support for the protest is needed for Myanmar and its future.

Nuclear Fusion Rocket Thrusters

by TAEHWAN KIM

Humans have always looked into the stars; whether it's out of curiosity of the cosmos or fear of the Earth one day becoming uninhabitable, space has been an object of fascination. Many in the past have dreamt about space travel, but for those alive today, the thought of being in space is not completely preposterous. Ever since the launch of the Sputnik 1 and the Vostok 1, sending satellites and people out into space is slowly becoming a regularity. Now, the

idea of becoming a multiplanetary species is not out of hand, either. With today's technology, the journey to Mars would take approximately 7 months—not a short journey, but completely possible. What if, however, we wanted to journey further out into the solar system, or even beyond it? Mars is, on average, 229 million kilometers away from Earth. Proxima B, the nearest exoplanet to earth beyond the Solar system, is 4.24 light years away, nearly 200,000 times further than Mars. With this caliber of challenge facing us, how could we ever dream of escaping the solar system, let alone reaching the furthest corners of the system? Dr. Fatima Ebrahimi, a physicist at the US Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL), might have a solution.

Dr. Ebrahimi proposed a nuclear fusion propulsion system that could, theoretically, take us to Mars much quicker with much less fuel. This new rocket system functions by utilizing plasma particles and electric fields. This idea is not completely novel. There already exists Electric Propulsion systems and Ion thrusters that utilize electric fields and ionized gas, much like the newly proposed fusion thrusters. However, there are key differences. The design of the nuclear fusion thruster looks very much like a tokamak—a giant hollow metal donut which heats up and circulates the plasma in the chamber—with a segment cut out so that the plasma can escape and provide the thrust. Here, the distinction arises. While Electric Propulsion only utilizes ionized gas, nuclear fusion thrusters include plasma and plasmoids which significantly enhance the propulsion provided by the thrusters. Simulations done by computers in PPPL demonstrate that the fusion thruster will provide propulsion 10 times greater than that of conventional means of propulsion. Another difference is that while Electric thrusters utilize electric fields, fusion thrusters utilize magnetic fields. The phenomenon that allows the fusion thrusters to be so effective can be seen most frequently on the surface of the sun, a phenomenon called magnetic reconnection. This process generally occurs when magnetic fields converge around plasma before separating only to converge again. As the magnetic fields are rearranged and altered, huge amounts of magnetic energy is converted into kinetic and thermal energy. By utilizing this principle, plasma and plasmoids - magnetic bubbles that are often created in plasma under the influence of strong magnetic fields - can reach up to speeds of

hundreds of kilometers per second. If this concept can be successfully realized, space travel across long distances will become a breeze. Dr. Ebrahimi then revealed plans of building a prototype of this concept thruster.

If Dr. Ebrahimi's new concept of fusion propulsion can be successfully applied to our rockets, journeys to distant corners of the galaxy will no longer seem too distant. With technological advancements and novel ideas like that of Dr. Ebrahimi, the thought of becoming an interplanetary species is inching closer and closer to us. Maybe one day, we might even see the USS Enterprise cast off on her maiden voyage.

Another Giant Leap for Humanity

by JOSHUA BAKER

On July 30, 2020, after two years of building and billions of dollars of investment, the new rover Perseverance launched up into space. It is headed for the red planet to search for signs of ancient life in the Jezero Crater, a place where water once flowed. On February 18, 2021, the rover landed on Mars safely. It has survived the "seven minutes of terror," the time at which the rover was entering the atmosphere at 40,000 km/h to land safely on the surface. During these seven minutes of terror, the rover cannot be controlled because it is so far from earth that there is a delay of 5 minutes. This means that everything had to be automated. There are amazing videos on YouTube that can show the deeper process of the seven minutes of terror.

This mission is important because it attempts to search for past signs of life and send rock samples back to the Earth. Previous rovers such as the Curiosity rover had a microscope that analyzed rocks. But it was not able to send these samples back to earth to be further researched. Now Perseverance has a drill that will be able to send actual samples back to earth. The fact that we can bring rocks from 54 million kilometers away shows how much science is improving.

An interesting thing about this mission is that Perseverance has a drone built into it. The drone's name is Ingenuity and it will be the first aircraft that

will be used on another planet. The shocking thing about the drone is that the blades are rotating at 2400 RPM. This is a few times faster than a helicopter. It requires more force than regular drones because the Martian atmosphere is only of 1% thickness of our atmosphere. Its name "Ingenuity" fits also because the engineers had to find a balance between weight, power, and other variables.

Before the rover was sent, the "Send Your Names to Mars" campaign collected 10,932,295 names from all over the globe. Along with these names, 155 essays from the "Name the Rover" contest were engraved on the chip by an electron beam. Lots of people think that NASA's budget should be decreased, but it only receives 0.5% of the taxes of the US. By opening these programs, NASA is making the public to be interested and excited about these missions. I hope this mission will succeed because if it does, it will be another giant leap for humanity.

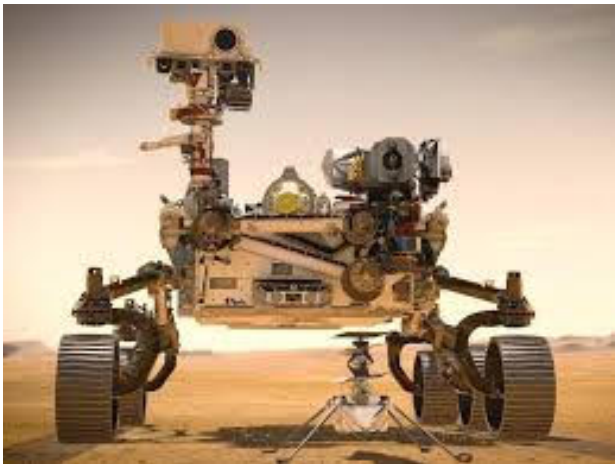


Image Source: NASA
