



## News Around the World

### Meet the 11-year old trying to clean up the Seine River in Paris

Sourced By: Rebecca Rossman, PRX

*Summarized by Abhinav Iyer*

We all want to make the world a better place. An 11-year-old boy named Raphael and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo has set a goal of making the Seine river in Paris clean and swimmable before the city hosts the Olympic Games in 2024. It is far from an easy task to make the river sanitary.

The Seine river has a considerable amount of bacteria in its waters. Approximately 360 tons of plastic are found in the Seine every year and they keep piling up in the riverbed. If they succeed in cleaning the Seine fully, then it will be the first time that bathing in the Seine River is safe and legal in over 100 years. Lucky for Hidalgo, Raphael has already cleaned up a considerable amount of debris. Fishing them out of the almost 725 kilometers (450 miles) stretch of water, the scrappy middle schooler has spent nearly every weekend with his dad finding anywhere from water bottles to iPhones, to even electric scooters. "It's not unusual for us to catch an entire ton in a single day," Raphael's dad, Alexandre de Fages de Latour, said. Raphael's biggest find was a 163-kilogram (360 pounds) Yamaha motorcycle that took an entire team to pull out of the water. "I always knew there were things at the bottom of the water, but not to the point of scooters and bicycles," Raphael said. Raphael is already cleaning up the Seine river, but we all have a part in cleaning up the earth.

We can stop throwing things onto the streets, stop using cars and releasing carbon monoxide into the air, and start recycling and using a bicycle or walk to reduce emissions. We can also stop using plastics and styrofoam.

### Record of 320,000 Punjab Soldiers from World War I is uncovered

Sourced from: The Guardian, adapted by Newsela Staff

*Summarized by Abhinav Iyer*

We all can appreciate World War I and the allied forces' contribution to the world we live in today. But, for a long time, the public databases of service records existed for British and Irish soldiers, not for Indian soldiers.

The contribution of Indian soldiers to the Allied war effort has recently been discovered. The records of 320,000 Indian soldiers found in the depths of the Lahore Museum in Pakistan gives us an insight into the contribution of India in WWI. These records sat abandoned in a basement for nearly 100 years. An effort was made to upload these records before Armistice Day, which celebrates the end of war on November 11. The soldiers were from Punjab, a former province of the British empire. It is found that they served in France, the Middle East, Turkey and East Africa, as well as in other parts of

British India. The British colonized India and ruled India for nearly 200 years. The British took advantage of Indian people and resources during their rule in India. Eventually, India got its independence in 1947.

This discovery is important for Indian people everywhere as it finally acknowledges their sacrifice and efforts during WWI. Even here at Skyview, we see a large percentage of our population hails from Indian heritage.

## Ask the Wise One

*By: Anonymous*

### What is the meaning of life?

42. Ok, jokes aside, the meaning of life is not something I can tell you, that's something everyone figures on their own. We each have our own meaning of life because it's not something that you can google (Okay, I guess you can) but I mean that the meaning of life is something you have to decide for yourself. Hope this helped!

- The Wise One

### Can I quit school, please?

"I would say to you, don't drop out of school. I understand all the sociological reasons, but I urge you that in spite of your economic plight, in spite of the situation that you're forced to live in — stay in school." -Martin Luther King Jr. I agree with Dr. King, we are lucky enough to have the privilege of going to school, some people don't even have that. We should cherish this opportunity.

- The Wise One

I'm friends with these two people and we are what you'd call a 'trio.' Lately, they've just seemed so close and they are always doing stuff without me and I feel more like the plus 1 to their friendship. even when I'm RIGHT THERE they talk about things I don't know/read/listened to/watch and they get annoyed if I try to topic change. They live really

### How do I boost my grades?

First, you need to have a growth mindset. I know this will sound cheesy, but you truly do need to believe in yourself. Then, prioritize your classes. Rank your grades from worst to best. If you need help, ask your teachers for help or extra explaining after class or whatever time works best for you. Try not to procrastinate, and power through your assignments in little sessions instead of all at once.

- The Wise One

### Why do we have an advisory in the middle of the day? Why not at the end of the day?

I asked Mr. Bonder (assistant principal) and he said that having advisory in the middle of the day provides a sort of break between classes. He says students would be too tired to do advisory at the end of the day.

- The Wise One

### How do you come out to people who you don't know would support or not

Honestly, there is no telling if they will support you or not, but whatever they say shouldn't change anything. You are your own person with your own life, and other people's opinions shouldn't change who you are. Let's say this person is important to you, and you feel like you're keeping something from them by not telling them. You could casually ask them "So, how do you feel about LGBTQ+?" based on

close to each other and I'm further away so they are always going to each other's house and having sleepovers etc. It's honestly exhausting. It feels like they have been living their whole life together and I just barged in randomly. I know they mean the best and I'm childish to complain about it but I'm so tired. IDK what to do btw, I did this the last time but didn't see it in the newspaper, what happened?

I understand why you would feel that way, but I definitely recommend talking to them and letting them know how you feel. You never know, their answers could surprise you. Maybe try to find common ground with them, find a similar interest between all of you, or maybe even start a new one altogether! Just keep in mind that you are NEVER 'childish' or 'immature' for having feelings and you can always come to a trusted adult for help. Hope this helped :)

Last time, we didn't have enough time to answer all the questions that we wanted, so the Advice Column didn't make it into the first Newspaper.

**- The Wise One**

**How do I stay focused in person? I always have to finish or elaborate on my work at home.**

Sometimes it's hard to focus with friends all around you, and I totally get that. If you get work in class, try to make it clear to your friends/classmates that you are going to finish the assignment, and then talk to them. Try to stay off computer games until you are done with everything important IF your teacher allows it.

**-The Wise One**

their reaction, you can decide how you want to proceed. REMEMBER! If they have a bad reaction and, let's say, don't want to talk to you, etc. then they are NOT worth your time or friendship. Good luck!

**- The Wise One**

**How do I get past stress on grades and tests?**

Honestly, there are times when I wish that all stress would magically disappear, but in reality, these feelings will never go away. Yes, you can learn how to control it, but It will never ACTUALLY go away. To get past stress on grades, try to finish all your assignments asap when you get them. Check them over, and just make sure you do everything the teacher tells you to do. I don't think that there is anything else I can say to you about that matter. As for tests, make sure you go over what the test is about. Some teachers post study guides on Schoology, and they are really helpful to review. You should be prepared enough that anyone could ask you any question regarding the upcoming test and you should be able to answer it on the spot. Try to keep your mind off of it, as over-thinking can leave you with MORE stress. But remember not to overwork yourself, and just chill. Getting a few points off on a test isn't the end of the world and you can always retake (if your teacher allows it)

**- The Wise One**

**I want to know why there are letters in math, they should not be there.**

Ugh, I feel you. Letters in math should be illegal, they belong in English, not math. (Sorry, Skyview math teachers) Unfortunately, they will be staying there for the long run, so buckle up!

**-The Wise One**

## Bottle Cap Snowman

### Materials Needed:

- bottle caps (*For one bottle cap snowman you need 3 bottle caps*)
- white, black, orange, and red acrylic paint
- paintbrushes
- ribbon
- hot glue gun and glue sticks
- buttons
- scissors



**Step 1:** *Paint the insides and the outsides of the three bottle caps. It's a little tricky to cover the whole bottle cap in one coat so you might need to do multiple coats of paint. And let the bottle caps dry of course!*

**Step 2:** *Once the bottle caps are dry, glue the back sides of the bottle caps on a piece of ribbon. You will want the ribbon to long but not too long. You want to put a little bit of glue in between the bottle caps so they won't fall apart. Make sure there is a loop at the top so you can hang it up!*

**Step 3:** *To add the snowman's eyes, nose, mouth, and buttons you can use the end of a paintbrush or you can use a toothpick!*

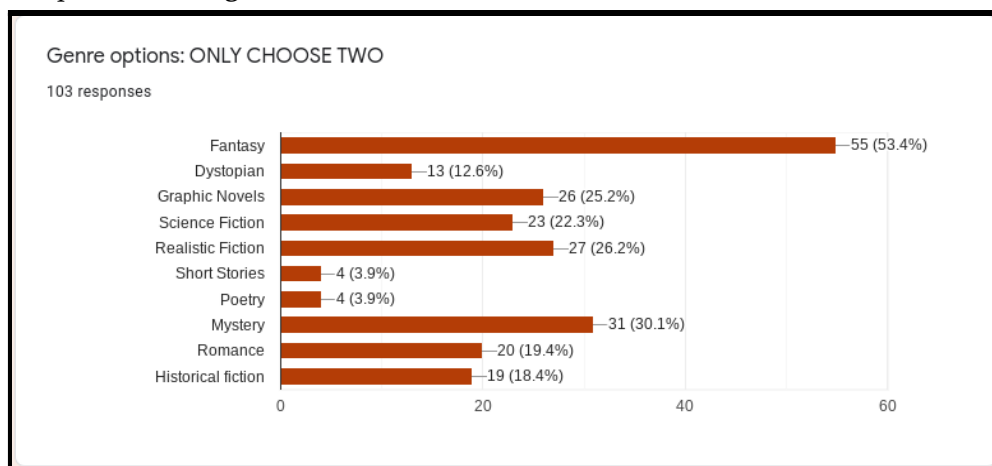
**Step 4:** *Tie a ribbon or string of yarn around the first and second bottle cap to make a cute scarf! And then you're done! Enjoy!*

## Book Recommendations

*By Jahnavi Shukla, Sana Chatterjee, and Yana Goyal*

Hello Skyview readers!

After many of you answered the book genre poll sent out to your advisory teachers, we found that out of 102 responses, three genres were the clear winners...



Like, we promised in the survey, we will give two book recommendations with a quick summary for each genre. Enjoy!

### **Fantasy**

1. *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner

Thomas arrives in a glade at the center of a giant labyrinth. Like the other youths dumped there before him, he has no memory of his previous life. Thomas quickly becomes part of the group and soon after demonstrates a unique perspective that scores him a promotion to Runner status -- those who patrol the always-changing maze to find an escape route. Can he and the Gladers escape in time?

2. *Percy Jackson & the Olympians* by Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson is a 12 year old boy that has transferred into many different schools. After getting expelled from his latest school, his life changes, finding a camp for people like him, who are demigods. However, at arrival, he is claimed by the sea god, Poseidon, and goes on a quest to retrieve the master bolt and to find his mother.

### **Mystery**

1. *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder* by Holly Jackson

For readers of Kara Thomas and Karen McManus, an addictive, twisty crime thriller about a closed local murder case that doesn't add up, and a girl who's determined to find the real killer--but not everyone wants her meddling in the past, and as the girl gets deeper into the mystery, she realizes that by learning about the mystery, she's putting herself in danger too.

2. *City Spies* by James Ponti

Five kids seemingly forgotten by the world join forces to hone their skills and become real-life spies.

### **Realistic Fiction**

1. *Forever, or a Long, Long Time* by Caela Carter

In *Forever, or a Long, Long Time*, Caela Carter examines the aftermath of foster care and adoption through the lens of Flora, who is repeating the fourth grade, can't talk when her words get "stuck" and has trouble always believing Person (her secret name for her white adoptive mother) is her forever mom.

2. *Wish* by Barbara O'Connor

From award-winning author, Barbara O'Connor comes a middle-grade novel about a girl who, with the help of a true-blue friend, a big-hearted aunt and uncle, and the dog of her dreams, unexpectedly learns the true meaning of family in the least likely of places.

## **International Holidays\***

*By Saki Ikenaga*

Here are traditions that people from different countries around the world follow for the holiday season!

- **America**- Hanging stockings on Christmas Eve. In a legend, St Nicholas found a poor family. To surprise them, he got inside their house through the chimney and placed a gold hanging stocking.
- **Finland**- People who live in Finland trust "Joulupukki" (Father Christmas). You can go to his secret workshop. Around the busy workshop, you can find reindeer wandering around the pine tree forests.
- **Iceland** - Icelanders give warm clothes for presents to each member of the family. This is to protect the family from a cat (from a legend) who gobbles up the person that is not ready for winter.
- **Canada** - Canadian kids usually have snow during Christmas. They wear warm clothes and play outside. They leave milk and cookies by a fireplace for Santa Claus.

- **Mexico** - All ages celebrate Christmas by pinatas in Mexico. Adults and kids having fun wearing blindfolds and spinning around trying to swing a stick to break the pinatas. Pinatas are hanging objects filled with candy, nuts, and fruits inside.
- **Guatemala** - Guatemalans celebrate Christmas by dancing. They each have tamales (Guatemalan style) and wear hats called Puritina. At midnight, they light firecrackers to celebrate Christmas night.
- **Argentina** - For people from Argentina, Christmas starts at midnight. In the early morning, they celebrate Christmas with fireworks and open their presents at home.
- **Brazil** - Brazilians' Christmas celebrations start at midnight. They have dinners with family, opening presents. At the churches, they do celebrations of the 'Missa do Galo' (the rooster's mass).
- **France** - Kids who live in France will put their shoes next to the hearth, and wait for Père Noël's arrival. If the kids are good that year, overnight their shoes will be filled with presents.
- **Germany** - Every day of Christmas, a German town's Christmas Market opens. In the town, the people play their instruments (bands, etc.) and other fares.
- **United Kingdom (UK)** - In the United Kingdom, all ages enjoy Christmas crackers for dinner. There are colorful papers that line the tube that the crackers come in. On the colorful papers, there are jokes, hats, etc.
- **Ghana** - Christmases in Ghana are celebrated with the whole family. Kids will decorate the house with paper ornaments and drawings. Adults wear costumes and give candy and sweets to the neighborhood.
- **Russia** - In Russia, they won't decorate Christmas trees. Instead of Christmas trees, they decorate New Year's trees. Children wait for "Grandfather Frost" to deliver presents. Grandfather Frost lives in the dark deep woods of Northern Russia, Veliky Ustyug.
- **Kyrgyzstan (China)** - Ayaz Ata (Grandfather Frost) leaves the present underneath the New Year's tree. When it is midnight, they celebrate with fireworks with families throughout the country. Of fireworks, cities are as bright as daylight. This is similar to a Russian Christmas.
- **Philippines** - The Philippines has the longest Christmas season in the world. It lasts through September, October, November, and December. You can start hearing the Christmas carols at the beginning of September.
- **South Korea** - In South Korea, Christmas is known as both 'the national Holiday' and 'the romantic Holiday'. Many couples go to the city, street, and markets.
- **Australia** - Australia is in the Southern Hemisphere, so, they're having Christmas during summer. People in Australia go to the beach and have some lunch and a few games of cricket on Christmas.

*\*Sources: Google*



## Festive Pets

*By: Carolyn Conway*



## New Year's Resolutions

*By: Amelie Brust and Maddie Hogan*

It's a new year's tradition for people to create a resolution or a goal to fulfill the following year. Some new year's resolutions are challenging and some are short, some are rewarding and some are a chore, but all of them are accomplishments. Even though the new year has just begun a couple of weeks ago, I'm sure many people have new years resolutions already. These are our resolutions. Amelie wants to swim with dolphins. Maddie wants to ace Algebra. Here are a few ideas from our students here at Skyview too!

We interviewed a few students during Movement and Connections time in the cafeteria and asked them what their new year's resolutions were. A 6th grader named Nella said that she wanted to be organized this year. "I want to help more animals," a student, Christopher said. Elly, a 6th grader, wants to get straight A's this school year. Ann Lee wants to travel more this year. Can't say we disagree. An anonymous student said they wanted to get better grades. An anonymous 7th grader said they want more confidence. A student who chose to go by Nickacado wants to eat more. These are

just a few examples of new year's resolutions here at Skyview Middle School! What are your new year's resolutions?

## LIES - A Comic

By Rithika Pooboni



Did you enjoy reading *The Talon*? Have any ideas on what should be in the next issue? Come join your fellow journalists in A105 (Mrs. Doty's room) during your Friday Movement/Connection time!