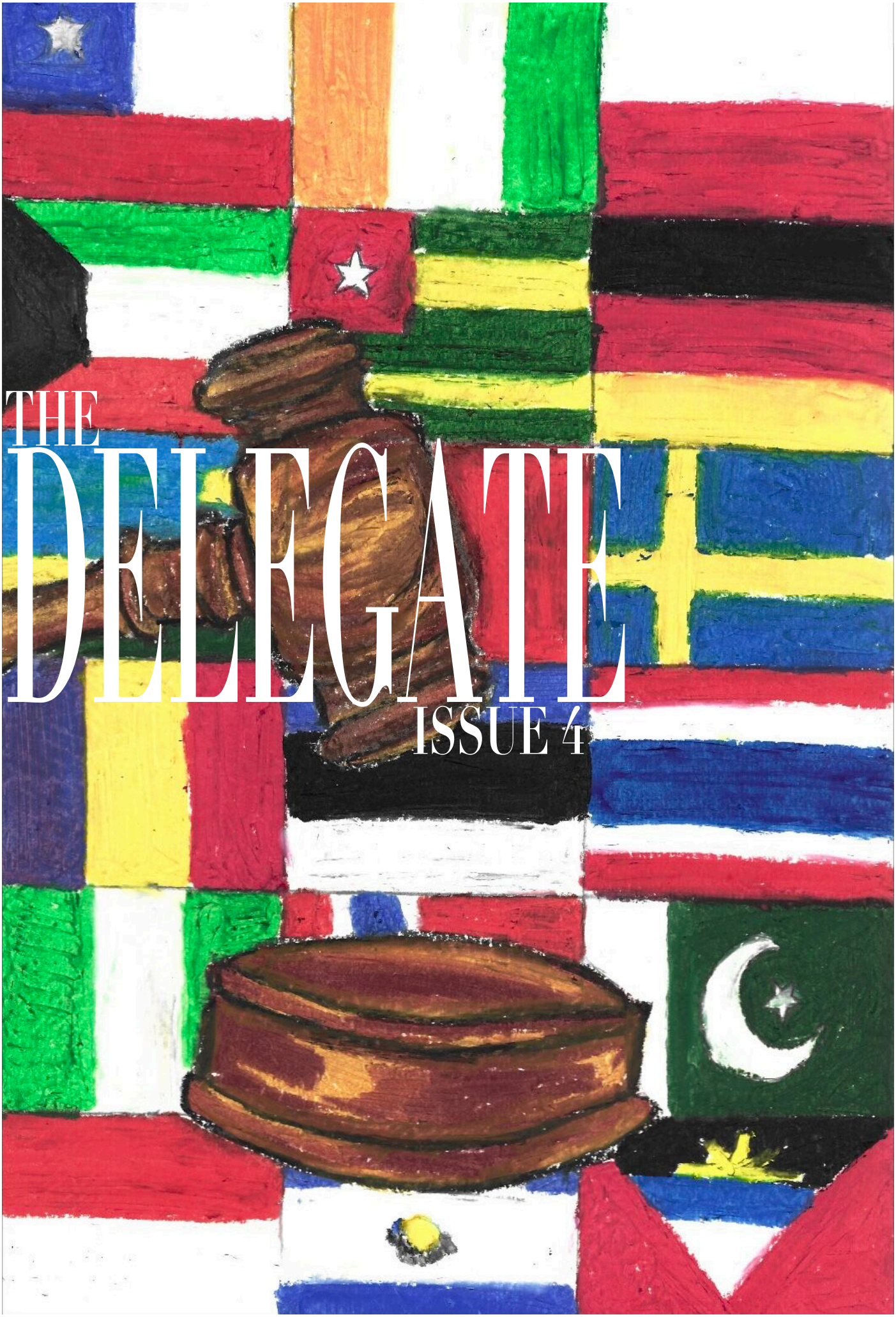

THE DELEGATE

ISSUE 4

EDITORS' NOTE

As the conference draws to its inevitable conclusion, it's time for the Press Team to say our goodbyes. It has been a fun and memorable experience producing and editing these four issues of *The Delegate*, and we hope that you've had just as much fun reading them! Aside from the stress of printing (which is something that very few people can truly appreciate), we've managed to keep our sanity by chilling to 'lofi hip-hop radio' (even Alfie Crispin will agree), while we've been working, and we're all going to miss the Buzzfeed vibe of the photography room when we leave.

Of course, we've had our share of muck-ups with fact checking, and we'd like to apologise for a misprint yesterday that said that Pinkish were from St Andrews: they are actually from the Goethe School of Bucharest! Other than the occasional error, we've really appreciated your positive feedback on all of our issues. We took the paper in a very different direction this year, and we're really glad to hear that, for a lot of people, it was a turn in the right direction!

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Stevens, whose eagle eye has spotted *almost* every error that there has been, and IT support, because we've really needed them. A lot...

For us (Rebekah, Lucas, Vitoria, Ola, and Sophia) this conference marks the end of the road for our Royal Russell MUN journeys. All five of us have been working our sister socks off to get these issues out to you, and we can all agree that, considering the talents of the younger journalists in our team, there is very bright future for *The Delegate* ahead! Honestly, everyone in the Press Team has been exceptional, and we're so happy to have had such a good team for these hectic last few days. Special mention to Diana, Sophia, Natalia, and Nerea, who have produced some of our best articles and drawings despite working in their second and third languages!

So, that's it. It's time for us to say goodbye. For those of us who have been doing MUN for years, it's the end of an era. It's time for us to move on and out now, but why not remember the conference with this last copy of *The Delegate*...

Hope you enjoy!

-The Press Team

Our contributors:

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Lucas Jones
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Zoya Kirmani
Erika Rugyendo-Henry
Samantha Edwards
Tess Williams

Goodbye from press

So that's a wrap. RRSIMUN 37 has sadly come to an end and it's been a pleasure from the moment we all arrived. Since setting up the great hall, we've gone to one fascinating event after another, whether that be committees, General Assembly, ICJ, an amazing Media showcase or simply sitting and reading *The Delegate*. Whether it was spending long hours in GA, rushing around as members of the secretariat or staring at screens to edit in press or media, we have all had an experience to remember. As the conference comes to its end, we want to look back on the wonderful memories we've made and most importantly, to thank everyone for their contributions to all aspects of the conference, it couldn't have been this great without you!

Starting off RRSIMUN 37, we turned the school into a conference centre, had a game show before finally greeting one another, either as old friends or for the very first time. Over the course of the conference, we've prepared resolutions and had debates on many important issues, showcased our talents and made friends for life. Finally, we've partied through the 60s and 70s, revisited our favourite DiCaprio movies and danced around in spooky costumes for the Halloween theme.

For some people, this is their last conference, and for many it is their last RRSIMUN. We're ready to see some serious tears in the Closing Ceremony, so make sure to bring the tissues! Although we wrote, illustrated, and edited every issue of *The Delegate*, our focus has always been the other aspects of the conference. Without the antics of the media, the stress of the chairs, and the atrocious flirting from the delegates we wouldn't have anything worth printing, so thanks for being such great inspiration (Especially you 6'4" Irish girl, hope your voice heals up soon).

Now the Press Team want to take the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to our friends and advisors and, from some of us, see you next year!

-The Press Team

Japanese Team News

Did you enjoy your time at Royal Russell IMUN?

Delegate : Yuki Ogawa
At first, I felt very nervous about talking with foreign students. But fortunately they were kind to me and encouraged me to make a confident speech. Now, I'd like to show my appreciation to them, especially to the delegate of Ecuador. I'll never forget their kindness and that will be my most precious memory.

Delegate : Kurumi Kikuchi
I was nervous, but foreign students were kind to me, so I could enjoy MUN. I'm grateful to them.

Delegate : Fuka Okumura
I couldn't understand all of the content and I couldn't speak very well. I was surprised, because everyone was kind to us and humorous!

Delegate: Aiko Matsuhiro
I was apprehensive to attend the conference. It was difficult for me to understand everything the delegates were saying, but everybody was very kind and encouraged us, so I was able to make a speech. I have learned a lot of things during the MUN conference and I want to make use of this experience in the future.

The Japanese Press Team say ありがとうございます (Arigatou gozaimasu) to you all. We hope you enjoyed our pages. Special thanks go to Anya Lewis, Ella and Jessica Westland, Vitoria Ribeiro, along with the entire RRS Press Team.

A Sit Down with Mr Moseley

This week we were fortunate enough to have an oppourtunity to speak to Mr Moseley, Director of International Relations, during a break in his very busy schedule, to talk all things MUN.

1. How long have you been doing MUN?
MUN started 37 years ago, but I have been doing MUN for 16 years.

2. Why is it important for people from Japan to come to conferences here?
The Japanese way of making decisions is very different it is good for Japanese people to experience a different way to discuss and argue ideas. It is also good for practising English.

3. What your favourite part of MUN?
Meeting people for the first time and listening to students debating.

4. Why do you hold an international conference every year?
It was started by a teacher who joined us from Brussels. There is an international aspect to the school (about 20% of the students are foreign and there are people from over 35 countries).

5. How many countries are here this year?
There are 84 countries represented by many different schools and there are schools from 12 different countries. Perhaps over 30 nationalities are here.

6. How long have you been at Royal Russell?
This has been my 40th year here.

7. What is your favourite thing about people from Japan?
The people there are very friendly and polite, and have a great sense of humour and fun.

8. What's your favourite film?
Any *Star Wars* or *Star Trek* film. *Lost In Translation* is my favourite film made in Japan (it is about someone's first visit to Japan). I enjoy Sci-Fi films.

9. Where is your favourite place to go on holiday?
Okinawa was a favourite family holiday. I like going to the counties of Devon and Cornwall (south west England) since the beaches and food are nice.

10. What are your favourite lunchtime meals at school?
I like salmon and pizza.

11. Which celebrity would you want to be for a day?
Prince William or Prince Harry because they get to meet a lot of new people, and they get to visit a lot of exciting places.

12. Are you married?
I am married (although my wife thinks I might be married to Royal Russell school).

13. How many times have you visited Japan?
I have been to Japan at least 16 times.

14. What are you favourite sports?
My favourite sports are running, football and basketball.

15. What song do you know all the words to? Prove it.
I like AKB48 but I only know all the words of the happy birthday song.
- The Japanese team

Don't Be Plastic

Did you know it takes 450 years for a single plastic spoon to biodegrade?

Plastic invented in the early 20th century has replaced a huge array of products that had been manufactured using traditional materials such as stone, wood, ceramics etc. This is due to its immense versatility and low production costs.

A virtually limitless range of traditionally made products and goods have been transferred to a plastic format. Paper bags became plastic bags; copper pipe used in plumbing became plastic piping; car parts that had previously been made of metal could be made from heat resistant plastic and virtually all food packaging became plastic to keep food fresh and attractive. The march of plastic has been irresistible.

However, the virtues that made plastic such an attractive and successful product in the first place have led to unanticipated, yet severe environmental consequences. Plastic products are robust; they can take decades or even hundreds of years to biodegrade. According to the US National Parks Service it takes 450 years for a single plastic spoon to biodegrade. We now have a huge problem with unwanted plastic waste that is polluting the planet. A particular problem is single use or disposable plastic products. Single use plastics are plastic products that have a single purpose or utility, meaning they are not reused. Coffee cups, straws, bottles and plastic bags are all good examples. Because these single use plastic products are not expected to be reused they are by definition and design expected to be thrown away.

Plastics often end up in the marine eco system or part of huge oceanic Gyres. The Gyres effectively trap the plastic products in rotational currents that keep these floating garbage sites in growing, but broadly fixed, locations in the oceans.

Plastics are having a terrible impact on marine life and the marine eco system. Many marine animals ingest plastic mistaking it for food. It is only going to get worse if we don't change our behaviour. The United Nations Ocean Conference estimated that the oceans might contain more weight in plastics than fish by the year 2050.

We should also bear in mind that as fish are being poisoned by plastic, they are entering the food chain and can be consumed by us. Unchecked, plastic will create a toxic time bomb with potentially devastating effects. It is also likely to have the greatest impact on poorer communities, particularly ones that survive on subsistence fishing. These communities will not have been responsible for the pollution in any large measure, yet they will suffer the most. This cannot be right.

What can be done? This is a problem caused by human behaviour and therefore, it can be addressed by a change in our behaviour. It's all about Project R…

Reduce - your own plastic waste.
Reuse - shopping and produce bags, avoid using single-use plastic bags.
Refuse - straws: "No straw, please" when buying drinks at restaurants or cafes.
Recycle your plastics and encourage others to do the same.
Rally protest to councillors, MP's, or any organisation or person that can make change happen.

First and foremost we all have to engage, it is no good saying plastic is a terrible thing and not doing anything about it. Start with yourself, then push your family, then your friends and so on. Pressure the bodies that you engage with.

What is your school doing to reduce plastic waste? What are the clubs that you belong to doing? Inertia is the enemy, we need to make change happen it's too important not to.

-Tess Williams

Cryptocurrencies

We live in a world where only 8% of money exists physically, and people have begun turning to currencies that only exist online. But are they dangerous, and how can we regulate them?

A cryptocurrency is a digital or virtual currency that uses cryptography to secure and verify transactions as well as to control the creation of new units of a particular cryptocurrency. Essentially, cryptocurrencies allow anonymous, irreversible, fast and secure payments.

Bitcoin (BTC) was the world's first cryptocurrency; created by an anonymous group of programmers in 2009, under the alias Satoshi Nakamoto. One of Nakamoto's main objectives when creating BTC was the network's independence from any governing authorities. It is designed so that every person, business, and machine involved in transaction verification becomes part of a vast network. At first it was almost impossible to spend BTC anywhere as it was a relatively new and quite complex form of payment. Today, however, you can purchase anything from an airplane ticket to a few bottles of beer in your local corner shop using it. Due to its rapid popularity, it has become seven times more valuable over the last year, almost reaching a rate of $5000 for one BTC.

As a result of its decentralisation from any governing bodies, cryptocurrencies are technically not a legal tender in any dominion or state. They, unlike the conventional currencies issued by a monetary authority, are volatile and are not controlled or regulated by anything meaning their price and value is determined solely by the demand in the market. Some could argue that our current, flat money is of no value either as it is no longer backed up by the gold standard. It is also important to note that citizens who invest in cryptocurrencies do so at their own personal risk and that no legal recourse is available to them in the event of loss.

Aside from the initial scares of BTC's irreversible transactions and anonymity, their questionable legal status paved the way for a series of concerns. Some of the world's governments still don't have any regulations regarding BTC, while others have outright banned it. The majority of businesses are still completely oblivious to it. There have also been a lot of concerns regarding Bitcoin's appeal to criminals; some news outlets have even stated that its popularity rests entirely on how easily it can be spent on illegal goods. Indeed, when the infamous web Silk Road (black market) was shut down, Bitcoin instantly decreased in value.

This resulted in Australia, Canada, and the Isle of Man enacting laws to bring cryptocurrency transactions and institutions that facilitate them under the ambit of money laundering and counter-terrorist financing laws. Some jurisdictions have gone even further and imposed restrictions on investments in crypto currencies, the extent of which varies from one jurisdiction to another. Countries such as Algeria and Pakistan ban any and all activities involving cryptocurrencies. Qatar and Bahrain have a slightly different approach in that they ban their citizens from engaging in any kind of activities involving cryptocurrencies locally, but allow citizens to do so outside their borders. There are also countries that, while not banning their citizens from investing in cryptocurrencies, impose indirect restrictions by banning financial institutions within their borders from facilitating transactions involving cryptocurrencies.

Not all countries see the advent of block-chain technology and cryptocurrencies as a threat. Some countries, while not recognizing cryptocurrencies as legal tender, see a potential in the technology behind it and are developing a cryptocurrency-friendly regulatory regime as a means to attract investment. In a small number of jurisdictions, cryptocurrencies are accepted as a means of payment along with their national currency.

It seems that although cryptocurrencies are emerging as the future of payment and a universal currency, until large, 'superpower' nations recognise them as a legal tender and set up permanent regulations on them, it is unlikely that they will go beyond the stage of being an internet craze and stabilise into something durable.

-Sophie Chayka

Little by little...

The Sustainable Development Goals are something that we should strive to achieve as a global community. As RRSIMUN comes to a close let's have a look to the future and see what Colegio Ayulde, in Bilbao, are doing to achieve them...

On September 25th 2015, in the United Nations, member states from all over the world adopted a set of 17 goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. The list of propositions that they created were called the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each goal is broad and interdependent and, in addition, each of them has a separate list of targets to achieve. Achieving all 169 targets over the next 15 years would signal accomplishing all 17 goals. For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector, civil society and, of course, citizens like us who are the great majority and a fundamental part in any global change.

Of course, these goals are something to take into account during MUN conferences. This is one of the reasons why MUN has so much impact on young people. We are precisely the ones who can have such an impact on achieving the SDGs. Obviously the broader language learning and the exchange of cultures when mixed with people from all over the world is something that has a great impact, but the participation in one of these conferences means leaving behind for a moment our school life and seeing how the world really works, which is something that makes you think about how you can contribute.

Focusing on my school's conference: MUN Bilbao, which takes place at the end of January 2019, not only is our general theme the SDGs, but we also have a committee dedicated to three of them. And if this were not enough, in May 2018 Ayalde school (the main organiaer of the MUN Bilbao conference) started working with MUN Impact. As a MUN Impact Partner, Ayalde has already contributed with its first project, which contributed to Goal 1, reducing poverty. The idea was to assign each grade with a different product to bring to school. The smallest ones, for example, had to bring all types of books or toys. Girls aged 9 to 12 were asked to collect clothes, while the oldest students brought in school materials. Then it was given to a Spanish organisation which distributed the product among needy families. The article can be found in the "our stories" section of the MUN Impact website (munimpact.org)

The level at which Ayalde is involved with the SDGs continues to increase little by little, and we all hope that this will continue to progress, and of course we hope to be able to encourage many more delegates to participate in the SDGs, since every effort we make is a small impulse to achieve a better world for all.

-Natalia Martinez De Las Rivas

MODEL UNITED NATIONS
MUN
BILBAO
SPAIN
COAS

Halloween Advice

Maybe you're going out this Halloween, or maybe you're not. You could have a huge party already organised at your house, while others may just plan on calling two friends over and having a horror movie marathon. No matter what you've got planned, we're here to give you some advice.

We'll start with one for the homebodies: if you're anything like us, you're probably going to be looking for a good scary movie for starters. *The Shining*, *Friday the 13th*, *Nightmare on Elm Street* and *Halloween* are obviously just some of the classics you simply can't skip. But not everyone is into the old movie vibe. If you're looking for something more modern, give *The Conjuring*, *Insidious*, *Oculus* or *Hereditary* a try. Scary movies don't necessarily have to be horror movies. If you're in the mood for some creepy cartoons, for example, *Coraline* and *Over The Garden Wall*, as well as any one of Tim Burton's impressive stop-motion animations are just the thing for you. Besides, Disney movies *Hocus Pocus* and *Halloweentown* are always going to have a special place in everyone's hearts.

After all that being said, maybe there's some bookworms out there that still don't feel like they've found the right thing for them. If you find yourself in that category, you might consider checking out *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs, *Collected Ghost Stories* by M. R. James, *Goosebumps* by R. L. Stine (if you're more of the nostalgic type) or just about any of Stephen King's creepy novels.

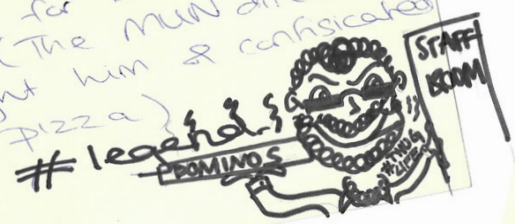
Still, not everyone wants to stay at home on Halloween, and if you are planning to go to a party or maybe just go trick-or-treating, you are probably going to need a costume. Honestly, the best trick we can give you there is to start pretty early, so that you can do everything yourself instead of having a store-bought costume. And even if you do end up having to do something last-minute, try going for something easy and recognisable (a character from a movie, from a book or even a video game).

To be honest, all that matters at the end of the day is that you have fun and make the most of this Halloween. It doesn't matter if it's a party, a TV show, a movie marathon or just a night in with a good book, just as long as you'll remember it as a successful, spooky evening. Or just bake some fancy Pinterest recipe, we can't tell you what to do.

-Diana Marcu and Sophia Tiganas

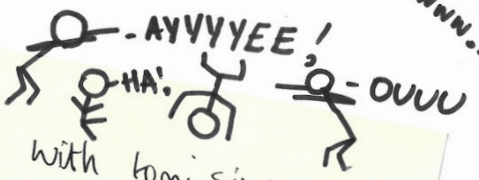
Tom Gaffoney running across the field to get dominoe's pizza for Rathdown girls. (The MUN director caught him & confisicated the pizza)

#legend



I fell in love, but I found out the hard way

#HANWWW...



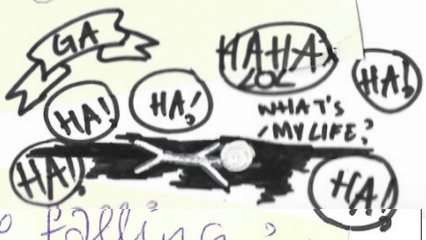
Dancing with temi, simon, sean and getting involved with the moshpit

#James Charles WHO?

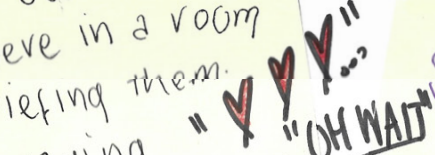
Sister shaking, shook & screaming in my shoes; we love that... that...

Sang justin bieber as a speech in my committee

↳ Angela



All the MUN'S Got Talent contestants were in a room and I was briefing them. I ended by saying "Thanks, guys, love you." Anna



Someone falling in GA!!

@3.

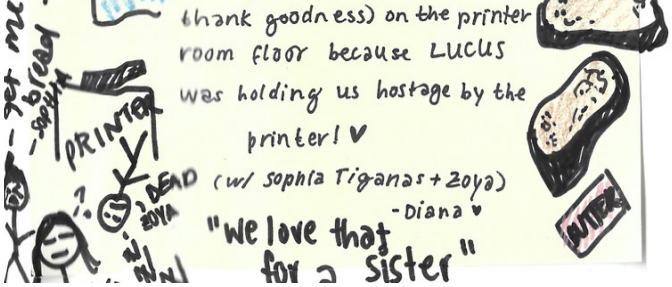
Accidently held my committee back by an hour.

Izzy's camera breaking/shaking whilst live.

Dan shot spitting on a girl when tryna chat her up @ the party

• fire alarm at 7.00am

eating bread + butter (salted, thank goodness) on the printer room floor because LUCUS was holding us hostage by the printer! ♥ (w/ sophia Tiganas + Zoya) -Diana ♥



"we love that for a sister"

#welove

Seeing the most beautiful Spanish girl — Paula.

Best Memories

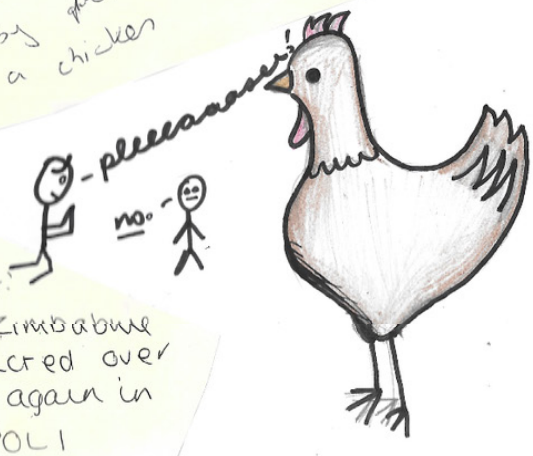
A boy asked if he could 'lips' me - he was referring to mouthing out - I was so scared!

AWKWARD awkward

When the delegate of Pakistan asked to pass a friendly amendment due to a grammatical error, but it was actually correct.

OOPS...

When Spain made his ambassador speech and emphasised certain words by pecking his head like a chicken



My best moment at this conference was when the US and Ecuador did a rap battle.

Best - Take me at Show

Funny - Pestering Matt & Sam whilst filming

-> You had to be there moments

Charlie

Best Moment:

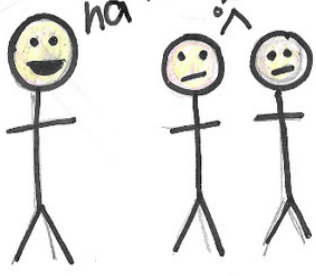
Seeing Zimbabwe get rejected over & over again in SPECPOL1

-Kumail

Getting drunk (NOT DRUNK) at the disco

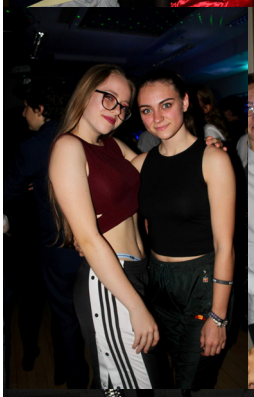
Best moment performing at the talent contest

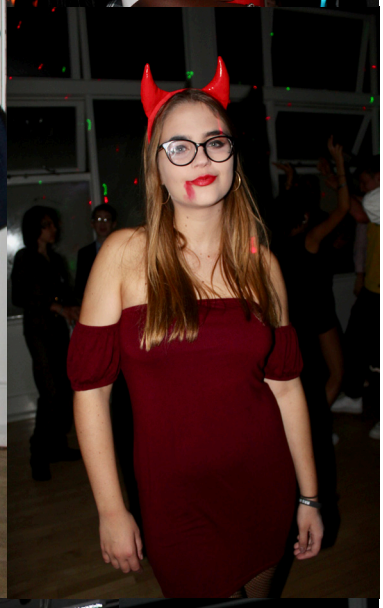
When your witty jokes do not get recognised by the delegates



It was pretty hilarious when the press team was stuck printing copies of The Delegate and we had bread and butter in the reception as dinner ☆ :)

"I'm gonna go cry now"





Monday Night Disco: Halloween

Photography by Vitoria and Rebekah
Vitoria's Photography Instagram: @vivisualss

RRSIMUN

By numbers

RRSIMUN is coming to a close, so let's have a look at the conference through cold statistics. Two intrepid reporters were sent out to survey the population of RRSIMUN to get a better idea of how they tick, and here are the results.

Q: Did you wear a Halloween costume?

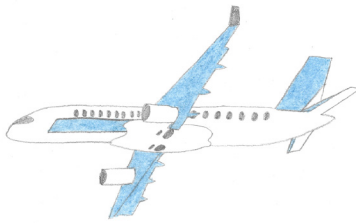
YES: 52%
NO: 48%

Q: Did you find love?

YES: 8%
NO: 92%

Q: Did you come from abroad

YES: 84%
NO: 16%



Q: Toes or fingers?

Toes: 81%
Fingers: 19%

Q: Heads or Tails?

Heads: 65%
Tails: 35%

Q: Would you come again?

YES: 74%
NO: 26%

- Sophie Chayka and Tess Williams

SO, YOU ARE DONE WITH GA...

Our 37th Royal Russell MUN Conference is (finally or unfortunately) over. With the help of our newspaper, you've survived hours of General Assembly well done for all the hard work you've done! We know MUN can be tough at times. It is definitely an amazing experience, but also pretty intensive and stressful. Believe it or not, there is world after MUN, so to help you relax a bit, here are 7 ideas of what you could do after the conference:

1) The first and most important thing **take a break**. The time for fiery debates and arguing is over. Put your phone away, turn some relaxing tunes on, prepare a cup of good tea or coffee and quieten yourself a bit. Sitting on your sofa and not doing anything productive might seem like a waste of time, but, trust us, everybody needs a bit of alone time and meditation to recharge their batteries and relax.

2) **Time to have some fun!** Our MUN parties are obviously irreplaceable, but what could be a better way to spend an evening than going out with your friends? Put some nice clothes on and, even if it is only for one night, become a dancing queen or king. Forget about all the global problems and the little things that are stressing you out you are young and tonight the world belongs to you!

3) **Read an interesting book** might sound like a bit of a lame advice, but this is not necessarily the case. It can be so refreshing to leave the binary world of social media for a while and employ your imagination with a piece of good literature. Science fiction? Romance? Or maybe inspired by one of the MUN debates a biography of an important politician?

4) It's never too late to enrich yourself with culture! If you're looking for peace and inspiration in a chill environment, **museums and art galleries** are the perfect place for you to go. You won't need a lot of money since, and museums are normally in very accessible locations, which makes it easier for you to find out more about whatever is that interests you, whether it's modern art, history of mathematics or even dinosaurs!

5) Delve into the world of **cooking** and make yourself something nice! We know you've been searching aesthetic foodporn on Instagram and Tumblr… what's stopping you from attempting to cook it yourself!? Go get some groceries, prepare the perfect dish, and take a photo of it, so that everyone knows how much of a capable and creative person you are. Little tip pasta dishes are a good choice if you're a beginner. They can also be very useful if you want to impress your date.

6) **Go somewhere you've never been** -"CARPE DIEM!" The bad news is that you have one short life, so make the most out of it! It's never too late to discover the world! Go to that one place that you always wanted to go, but you have never had the time.

7) **Prepare for the next MUN** Let's admit that we all have ambitions. Would you love to be a distinguished delegate? Have you been dreaming about becoming a chair? It is never too early to start the preparation! Train your leadership, debating and communication skills, and get ready to smash it in next year's MUN!

-Ola Maciaszek and Sofia Lara De Elvira

So, you're bored in GA...

The Conference Cartoon:

It's all over...

To see the work of the media team, and possibly spot yourself in a video, go to:

www.1853productions.co.uk/MUNTV

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7					3			

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There isn't a party tonight...

Have a safe journey home!