

Macdonald C.I.
 “We’ve Got You Covered.”



Senior Boys Soccer Team

Ms. Stavrou

Congratulations to our Senior Boys Indoor Soccer team for winning City Champions! They are the only undefeated team this season. Way to go!



Photo Credits : Ms. Stavrou

March Break Plans

Vidhi Jaju

This year, March Break was from March 10th to March 14th, giving students and staff a much-needed rest before the final part of the school year. It was a time to relax, take a break from school, and enjoy doing things not part of everyday routines.

Many students spent this time sleeping in, watching movies, or hanging out with friends and family. Some families went on trips, whether to visit relatives or take a vacation somewhere new. Others preferred to stay home, enjoying hobbies like reading, gaming, or playing sports. Some students also used this time to catch up on schoolwork or prepare for upcoming evaluations and assignments. No matter how it was spent, March Break is meant to be enjoyable for everyone.

During my break, I made sure to spend time with my friends and family. It was nice to take a break from studying and enjoy quality time together. I went out with my friends, watched movies, and had fun without worrying about homework or deadlines. Having a full week without school offered me enough time to relax and do things I don't always have time for during hectic school days.

Even though I wanted to rest, I knew school would start again soon, so I allocated some time to prepare for the weeks ahead. I reviewed my notes, organized my things, and made sure I was ready for any upcoming projects or tests. Balancing both relaxation and preparation made my break feel productive, yet enjoyable at the same time.

Overall, March Break is an important time for students because it lets them step away from school and focus on themselves. Whether they use it to relax, travel, or get ready for school again, it helps them recharge before the rest of the school year. For me, it was a great mix of fun and productivity, and now that it's over, I feel more prepared to finish the semester strong.

Greek Heritage

Foti Fotiou

This month, the HSA and MACC hosted a dance performance in the cafe to celebrate the important day of March 25th and Greek Heritage Month, here at MAC. March 25th, 1821 commemorates the day that Greece gained independence from the Ottoman Empire, after being colonized for over 400 years. As the Ottoman Empire was quite large, Greeks were stripped of their religion, traditions, culture, and language, forced to learn those of the Ottoman Empire instead. However, with the help of Peloponnese General, Theodoros Kolokotronis, the motto “Eleftheria i thanatos” (Freedom or Death), and their patriotism, the Greeks were able to embark on an eight-year war that led to their independence. To this day, we recognize this war as an important factor in Greek history and it contributes to our pride and who we are today. We mark this day with celebrations that include parades and dancing. This year, we have celebrated with dances from the Southern Peloponnese region of Greece, dancing Kalamatianos, Tsamikos and Hasaposerviko, also teaching everyone of this day's significance.



Photo Credits : Ms. Stavrou

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School / Club Activities

SAC Country vs. Country Club & SAC Mac Wear Day

Alphen Tan

Yee-Haw Mac! This month, SAC introduced a new spirit day: Country vs. Country Club. This SAC event happened on March 5th, when students could dress up as if they were going to a Wild West-themed event or a country club.

This was a fun spirit day for all those who participated. Despite it being a new event, there were many participants and amazing outfits. I commend the dedication of those who took part, some even going as far as bringing tennis rackets and “country club” food!

I was lucky to have a quick chat with Jatin Taploo, the SAC President. Here is what he thought of this new spirit day: “SAC’s country vs. country club was a new event the SAC wanted to promote this year. Students came to school wearing clothes representing either country (cowboy boots, plaid) or country club (posh clothes/flannels/skirts) attire. I found that though this was a new event, there were many students who dressed up, and it was clear that Country Club definitely won! I hope to see more and more students participate in future years as this is definitely a fun event!”

Beyond flannels, polos, or skirts, the SAC also planned Mac Wear Day on the 28th.

Mac Wear Day is a day when students can show school spirit by wearing any Mac apparel. This event has historically been very successful. Many students either see the advertising efforts of the SAC or accidentally wear a gym shirt to school. Whether intentional or not, this event ran wonderfully and it was awesome seeing all the different school clubs and councils representing their version of Mac apparel. It amazed me that so many clubs and councils have their own clothing pieces, whether it’s t-shirts, hoodies, or even gym shirts.

Spain and Portugal Trip

Yuma Tamai

This March break, Grade 11 and 12 students had the opportunity to embark on a 10-day trip to Spain and Portugal. Teachers and students traveled through these two countries, touring historical buildings, churches, and cities. Many of my friends went on this trip, and their photos of Europe were breathtaking!

Students that I talked to briefly about the trip said it was fun, but also tiring as they had to adjust to the new time zone while waking up early in the morning. The incredible food and stunning scenery made it all worthwhile.

I was able to chat with Sophia Avakian, a grade 11 student who gave me a beautiful image about one of her best moments of the trip.

Avakian shared, “It feels almost impossible to pick out only one event that was the most memorable. Throughout the trip we had to stay in four different hotels, some being fancier than the others. On our fourth night in the second hotel, we managed to have room checks pushed to midnight, but did not spend our night on devices or running around the rooms. We spent it together – teachers and students. We started the night with a simple card game with candy and ended it with karaoke, candy, and being extremely loud and joyful. The junk food, the songs we were singing, the sight of both grade elevens and twelves bonding was what made that night so special.”

She continued, “While in Europe, connections were made between the students that were real. No phones, no recording, no pictures. That night was a core memory of loud teenagers in a fancy hotel, in Europe, on a spring break trip. I may not remember what I had for lunch yesterday, or the grade I got on my last assignment, but I will always remember the day I stepped onto the plane.”

It’s clear she had an unforgettable experience! Being able to bond with people is probably one of the best feelings in a person’s life. To share laughs and memories with each other, and being able to look back on those memories and know you had a good time is something special to cherish.

I’m glad everyone had such a great time and hope they’re all catching up on sleep! Next year, our school will be traveling to France and Italy. Hopefully, those interested will have the chance to create unforgettable memories!

Parent Teacher Interviews

Yuma Tamai

As we adjust our schedules coming back from March Break, Parent Teacher Interviews took place on March 27th for semester two classes. It’s a chance for parents and guardians to discuss with teachers about their child’s position in their classes. Teachers inform them about the student’s grades, behaviour, areas of improvement, and next steps to take.

The school day was a half day, with all classes ending at 11:40 am, to make time for the interviews. The meetings took place from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the school, in the classrooms on the first floor. Parents and guardians were able to book five-minute meetings with teachers they wanted to speak with online.

Mac Reps helped organize the interviews; from setting up the classrooms for the teachers, being secretaries and making sure all parents/guardians had a chance to speak with their child’s teacher(s), to helping guide parents/guardians around the school. They worked all evening to make sure this night was organized.

I was able to have a quick interview with Harriny Kanageswaren, our Grade 11 Mac Rep president. I asked her how she thought the night went. She said, “I think Parent-Teacher Interviews turned out pretty great! Everything went so smoothly and it was amazing to see parents/guardians popping in to say hi. I’m so thankful for everyone who took the time to help out and I’m looking forward to another successful event next year!”

I’m so glad to hear we had another successful parent teacher interview. Thank you to the Mac Reps and teachers for staying behind on Thursday!



Photo Credits : Alphen Tan



Photo Credits : Kun Hong



Photo Credits : Ms. Stavrou



Photo Credits : Ms. Stavrou

Ramadan & Eid

Aleezah Abidi and Amna Khan

Hey Mac! Have you ever wondered what fasting is or what the supermarket banners saying “Ramadan Kareem” or “Eid Mubarak” mean? Well, to put it simply, Ramadan is the holy month of the Islamic calendar, a time when Muslims worldwide will refrain from eating and drinking from sunrise to sunset. Let’s break this month down.

The religion of Islam follows the lunar calendar, which has 29-30 days in a month and 354 days in a year. This means that, although the lunar calendar also has 12 months like the Gregorian calendar, Ramadan occurs 1 to 11 days earlier each year. This is why Ramadan does not have a fixed or definite date, it depends on the moon!

Ramadan is the ninth month of the lunar calendar and begins when the new moon is sighted, marking the start of a new month.

Now, what exactly is the purpose of Ramadan? Fasting is not just refraining from food or drink, it is considered a way of deflecting distractions. Along with abstaining from food, Muslims also limit leisure activities – such as swearing, excessive screen time, or going out too often – instead using this time to grow closer to God. Fasting helps with spending less time thinking about what to eat and what to make. This practice serves as a way to implement more empathy into our lives, remembering that people worldwide are forced to fast.

However, Muslims don’t simply eat nothing for an entire month. A couple of hours before sunrise, Muslims wake up to eat a nutritious, filling, and hydrating meal to last them the day, called Sehri or Suhoor. Then, the moment the sun sets, they will eat and drink heartily from a feast referred to as Iftar.

After the first two-thirds of Ramadan, the last 10 days are a time to reflect. These days are considered extra special because within them is a day called Laylatul Qadr, the Night of Power, when prayers are believed to be accepted, and good deeds are greatly rewarded.

Finally, after a month of fasting, Muslims look out for the beautiful crescent moon, which marks the end of Ramadan and the beginning of Shawwal. The first three days of the new month celebrate the days of Eid al-Fitr, which means Festival of Breaking the Fast. Muslims celebrate with festive gatherings and feasts, congratulating one another on their perseverance and dedication throughout the past month. Although officially, Eid is three days long, many people celebrate only the first day for reasons such as work or culture.

On behalf of Mac, we wish all celebrating Muslims an enjoyable rest of this spiritual month and a wonderful Eid!

St. Patrick's Day

Hannah Emberley

St. Patrick’s Day is a worldwide holiday that originated in Ireland in the 19th century. It is a holiday based around the death of Saint Patrick. Saint Patrick was believed to have died on March 17 around 461 AD, which is why St. Patrick’s Day is now celebrated yearly on March 17th. This day was originally celebrated as a religious holiday where a feast was held to honour Saint Patrick’s life. The day began as a celebration of the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, but now celebrates Irish culture and heritage. History states that the religious restrictions around drinking and fasting were lifted for the day, which we see has created a tradition that continues across both time and space. Green became the colour surrounding this holiday due to the natural landscape of Ireland and the popularity of shamrocks. The shamrock was also a symbol of hope, love, and life. St. Patrick’s Day celebrates the amazing culture and environment of Ireland and is a celebratory day that is appreciated worldwide.

A Playlist for Spring

Alina Liu

As an avid music and spring lover, I compiled a playlist of 40 songs that radiate spring vibes! You can find the Spotify playlist link at the bottom, or you can add these songs to a playlist of your own.

1. “neon skies” by Zach Hood
2. “Fireflies and Southern Weather” by Zach Hood
3. “Weatherman” by Zach Hood
4. “Dandelions” by Ruth B.
5. “Jam & Butterfly” by DPR LIVE, Crush, eaJ
6. “blue” by keshi
7. “Smoking Roses (Feat. Leellamarz)” by ASH ISLAND, Leellamarz
8. “Sunshine” by Stray Kids
9. “There” by Stray Kids
10. “Butterflies” by Stray Kids
11. “Polaroid Love” by ENHYPEN
12. “Just A Little Bit” by ENHYPEN
13. “TFW (That Feeling When)” by ENHYPEN
14. “Orange Flower (You Complete Me)” by ENHYPEN
15. “BLOSSOM” by ENHYPEN
16. “A Song Written Easily” by ONEUS
17. “Nectar” by THE BOYZ
18. “Blind Love” by &TEAM
19. “五月雨 (Samidare)” by &TEAM
20. “君にカエル (Maybe)” by &TEAM
21. “Smile Flower” by SEVENTEEN
22. “April shower” by SEVENTEEN
23. “舞い落ちる花びら (Fallin’ Flower)” by SEVENTEEN
24. “Hai Cheng” by THE 8
25. “Petal” by VICTON
26. “Love or Die” by CRAVITY
27. “Now or Never” by CRAVITY
28. “Spring Day” by BTS
29. “Daisy” by PENTAGON
30. “Spring Breeze” by Wanna One
31. “ゆらゆら -運命の花- (YURA YURA)” by ZB1
32. “Love Again” by BAEKHYUN
33. “WALLFLOWER” by TWICE
34. “一起去风里吧 (Yi Qi Qu Feng Li Ba)” by 小蓝背心 (Xiao Lan Bei Xin)
35. “會開花的雲 (Blooming Clouds)” by 王樾安 (Wang Yue An)

Have fun listening!
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3Dj35EFMEoEynBzWzuAAk4>

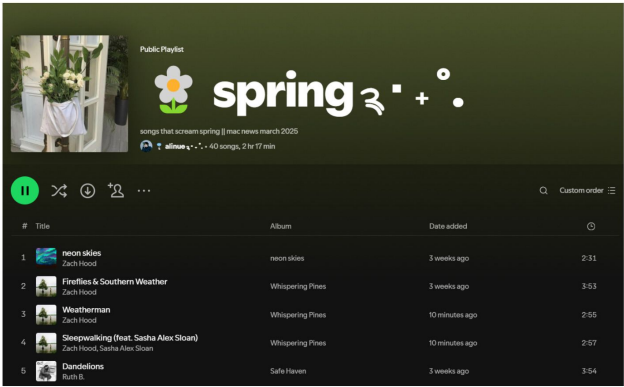


Photo Credits : Alina Liu

Why Sky: Children of the Light Is Such an Addictive Game

Alina Liu

Introduction

Initially released as a mobile game on July 18th, 2019, “Sky: Children of the Light” gradually developed into a game available on Nintendo Switch, Playstation, and Steam. With millions of downloads and active players, this aesthetic and peaceful massive multiplayer online game (MMO) achieved two Guinness World Records: “Most Users in a Concert-Themed Virtual World” and “Most Players Emoting Together at the Same Time in a Video Game.” As a daily “Sky: Children of the Light” player, I find this game incredibly cozy, friendly, and addicting, and countless reasons contribute to this.

Aesthetic Graphics

One of this game's most notable features is its aesthetically pleasing graphics. Certain areas, such as Aviary Village and Prairie Peaks, involve time changes throughout the day. Watching sunsets transforming into nighttime always provides an inner sense of solace, primarily because of how gorgeous the artwork is. The photos below are screenshots I took in Prairie Peaks, and its beautiful colours instantly made it my favourite place in the game. Moreover, the adorable designs of the Aviary Village Cafe, portals, and realms in general all contribute to the coziness of the game.

Constant Events

“Sky: Children of the Light” never gets boring because of its continuous seasons and quests. The duration of each season is typically nine to eleven weeks, offering players enough time to collect seasonal candles through daily quests to purchase limited cosmetics or spells. These events also allow players to explore more areas of the game and collect normal candles, the primary currency, along the way. The current season is the Season of Radiance, which unlocks coloured butterflies across the realms for player cosmetic dyes. Most of this game is collection and exploration-based, so players have many activities to enjoy, even when a season ends.

Conclusion

With countless spirits to rescue and various realms to explore, “Sky: Children of the Light” is the perfect game to play on a slow weekend to relax after a hectic week. Meeting new friends, helping other players, and completing quests are just some of the numerous tasks in the game. The underlying theme of unconditional sacrifice adds more meaning to the game, as well.

Alas, that is a story for another time.



Photo Credits : Alina Liu

Best Historical C-dramas To Binge Watch

Alina Liu

Ever since I was a child, I have been fervently watching Chinese dramas, reality shows, and cartoons. Consequently, C-entertainment naturally became an integral part of who I am today. Despite watching countless genres over the years, my favourite C-drama genre is undoubtedly historical. Since the long weekend in April is rapidly approaching, here is a list of some of the best historical C-dramas to binge-watch.

- Fangs of Fortune (2024)
– 大梦归离
- My Journey to You (2023)
– 云之羽
- An Ancient Love Song (2023)
– 古相思曲
- Love’s Rebellion (2024)
– 四海重明
- Story of Kunning Palace (2023)
– 宁安如梦
- Guardians of Dafeng (2024)
– 大奉打更人
- New Life Begins (2022)
– 卿卿日常
- Love Between Fairy and Devil (2022)
– 苍兰诀
- Warm on a Cold Night (2023)
– 九霄寒夜暖
- The Princess Royal (2024)
– 度华年
- Word of Honour (2021)
– 山河令
- Love of Thousand Years (2020)
– 三千鸦杀
- Joy of Life Season 1 (2019)
– 庆余年
- Joy of Life Season 2 (2024)
– 庆余年 2
- Love Like the Galaxy (2022)
– 星汉灿烂·月升沧海
- Snow Eagle Lord (2023)
– 雪鹰领主



Here are a few historical dramas that are still on my to-watch list!

- Perfect Match (2025)
– 五福临门
- Veil of Shadows (2025, to be aired)
– 月鳞绮纪
- Hidden Shadow (2025, to be aired)
– 烽影燃梅香
- Chasing Jade (to be announced)
– 逐玉

If you have questions or would like more C-entertainment recommendations, fill out the anonymous Ask Angus Google Form in the bio of @macnews.tdsb on Instagram!

Greek Heritage Month

G	A	A	R	E	M	I	L	A	K	O	R	S	S
T	A	T	H	E	N	S	E	T	A	N	A	I	P
P	H	I	L	O	S	O	P	H	E	R	H	L	A
A	A	S	P	G	L	O	L	E	A	Y	E	O	N
T	E	H	P	T	Z	A	T	Z	I	K	I	P	A
O	Y	O	M	Y	T	H	O	L	O	G	Y	O	K
C	A	E	L	O	I	O	A	A	B	A	F	R	O
P	S	C	I	P	M	Y	L	O	A	E	O	C	P
T	C	O	L	P	E	E	P	E	K	L	O	A	I
R	E	A	A	I	I	G	G	O	L	H	M	A	T
A	T	I	P	V	M	H	L	A	A	H	P	L	A
M	L	A	O	A	L	I	A	A	V	Z	C	Y	T
I	A	R	O	G	A	G	Y	O	A	L	L	A	E
O	R	A	D	E	M	O	C	R	A	C	Y	E	F

- OLYMPICS
- DEMOCRACY
- OMEGA
- PHILOSOPHER
- ALPHA
- ACROPOLIS
- ATHENS
- SPANAKOPITA
- MYTHOLOGY
- AGORA
- TZATZIKI
- KALIMERA
- FETA
- OPA
- BAKLAVA

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8219780/>