

Andersen Insider

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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

We are thrilled to present this exciting milestone, brought to life by the creativity, collaboration, and determination of our roving reporters, photographers, editors and digital teams. From brainstorming headlines to chasing down stories, our student reporters have shown remarkable patience, curiosity, and teamwork. Every article, photo, and interview in these pages is a testament to their commitment and voice.

As editors, we—Ms McGoldrick, Prof. Sgaria, and Mr Nick—couldn't be prouder. This isn't just a newspaper; it's a piece of history in the making. Our students have set a bold standard for what's possible when young minds take the lead. They've opened the door for future year groups to step in, contribute, and shape the stories that matter most to our school community.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition as much as we've enjoyed helping it come to life. Here's to many more issues, many more voices, and a growing legacy of student-led storytelling.

Warm regards, Ms McGoldrick, Prof. Sgaria & Mr Nick (Editorial Team)

HALLOWEEN IS BEHIND THE DOOR...

By Marlene Arnell and Giulia Maria Celeste

As you probably know, Halloween is not only celebrated for trick or treating, but is also a time to celebrate the dead. However a lesser-known fact is how Halloween was created. The Celts had a celebration called Samhain to protect their new year, which needed to be protected. The new year began on November 1st, the end of summer and beginning of winter. It was then decided that it was the perfect day to celebrate the dead, as it was believed to be the barrier between the dead and the living.

Not a lot of people know this, but pets are celebrated at Halloween too! The 27th of October is the day used to honour pets who have since passed away. It is a Mexican tradition connected with Día de los Muertos. To celebrate your dead pet, you can make an altar with a picture of your pet in the middle and surround it with candles and flowers, you should also put their favourite treats and toys around and their collar on the picture.

For the Day of the Dead, or Día de los Muertos, Y7, Y8, and Y9 have been working on something to contribute to our offrenda in their Art and Design lessons. Now, they have finished and all of their work has beautifully decorated the space outside of the Y8 classroom. Year 7 cut 'papel picado' which are colourful hanging decorations made out of very thin, delicate paper. Y8 created wonderful clay skulls in memory of important dead people in their life. In Mexico the skulls are made out of sugar and names are written in frosting, even if they aren't dead, to help celebrate the holiday. Y9 made linoleum prints based on someone important in their life, dead or alive, with two colours and lots of symbolism. The space came out as a dazzling success.

Nowadays some of the typical Halloween traditions are: carving pumpkins, watching scary/horror movies, decorating your home with spooky decorations, and -as if it needed saying - trick or treating.



ART BY GAIA PIZZINI



OFRENDA



DEDICATION SCULPTURE



ARTIST BIANCA TESTORI

FEATURES

HAIRY CATERPILLARS

by Riccardo Pellegrini

Hairy caterpillars are the common larval stage of many moths and butterflies. Some of them are harmless and feed on leaves, such as the Fall Webworm, while others, like the Pine Processionary, have urticating hairs that can cause serious health problems for both people and animals. Their hair serves both as a defense against predators and as a way to adapt to different environments.

Well-known Examples of Hairy Caterpillars

Fall Webworm (*Hyphantria cunea*):

- Commonly known as the "hairy caterpillar," it is harmless to humans, but its larvae can defoliate entire trees, building web-like nests.

Pine Processionary (*Thaumetopea pityocampa*):

- This caterpillar is dangerous to humans and animals—especially dogs and cats—due to its urticating hairs, which can cause allergic reactions and even death.

Flannel Moths:

Resembling fluffy plush toys, these caterpillars carry a venom that is effective against predators, which may be repelled or even spit them out.



What Do Caterpillars Like?

- Identification: These small green caterpillars with white stripes love only broccoli, rapeseed, kohlrabi, radishes, turnips, peas, cabbage, and cauliflower plants. Their bodies form a loop when they walk. You can easily identify this caterpillar by its noticeable "hump."

Is the Flannel Caterpillar Poisonous?

- Flannel moths may look like soft plush toys, but their caterpillars carry a powerful venom. Its origin may be bacterial. The main purpose of the caterpillar's thick fur is to make predators either spit them out as soon as they try to eat them, or avoid them altogether.



Comic by Cecilia Nibioli

SPORTS AND EVENTS



INTERNATIONAL DAY

Di Juliette Astier

L'International Day, come è ormai noto a tutti, si è svolto quest'anno il 20 settembre, si tratta di un giorno che l'intera comunità scolastica attende con grande entusiasmo. Ma cosa rappresenta esattamente l'International Day? Non è semplicemente una giornata; è un evento fondamentale interamente dedicato alla celebrazione della ricchezza delle diverse culture, delle nazionalità e dello spirito internazionale che anima gli studenti e l'intera comunità scolastica. Si riunisce tutta la scuola, dalla nursery alla high school, per svolgere varie attività, come la *flag parade*: ogni classe, insieme al proprio insegnante, fa un giro della scuola portando la bandiera di un paese. Inoltre, ogni famiglia della comunità scolastica porta da casa del cibo caratteristico del proprio Paese. Ogni anno, celebrare questo evento non è solo un momento estremamente divertente per tutti, ma si rivela sempre un'esperienza indimenticabile, che lascia un segno positivo. L'International Day è una festa di grandissima importanza per l'Andersen, un pilastro che, ne siamo certi, la scuola continuerà a onorare per tantissimi anni, perché promuove in modo efficace l'unità e l'armonia proprio attraverso la profonda valorizzazione delle nostre differenze.



GETTING READY



IN PROGRESS



FLAGS WAVING

SPORTS AND EVENTS



THE WINTER OLYMPICS ARE COMING...

By Maia Sevesi and Cecilia Nibioli

The XXV Olympic Winter Games, also known as the Milan-Cortina 2026, will be held from February 6th to 22nd in Milan and Cortina d' Ampezzo. More precisely the competitions will be held in Rho, Assago, Bormio, Livigno, Predazzo, Rasun-Anterselva and Tesero. This will be the third Winter Olympics to be hosted in Italy, following Cortina in 1956 and Turin in 2006.

The first torchbearers announced for Milano Cortina 2026 are Achille Lauro, Flavia Pennetta, and Francesco Bagnaia, along with other inspirational figures such as Andrea and Franco Antonello, Dario Pivrotto, and Lucia Tellone. In total, 10,001 torchbearers will carry the Olympic torch through the journey across Italy.

One student reported that she will be attending the winter olympics and has told us that she has never been to the olympics and is extremely excited to see them!. Another has shared with us that he will be visiting Cortina with his ski club this break, where he hopes to see the preparations for the upcoming events. He is excited to know that he will be practicing on the same slopes as the olympians.

Who knows, maybe the next time the Olympics are held in Italy, one of our classmates will be competing at them!



PROJECTED HOCKEY ARENA



CORTINA



SAN SIRO FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY

INTERVIEWS

Getting to Know Ms. Riley

By Cecilia Nibioli and Camilla Pagani

How many years have you been at Andersen?

From 2014, so 11 years.

What events are coming up in school?

- For Kindergarten a halloween party in October.
- For primary and Middle school in November the book fair.
- For everyone the Christmas show in December

Which is your favourite upcoming event?

The Christmas show because I love celebrating Christmas all together.

If you were a kid, which club would you have liked to be in?

I would have liked to be in choir because I really liked singing and I even did singing after school.



DOTTORESSA ELENA GARLASCHI



MS. KELLY RILEY

Conosci la dottoressa Garlaschi?

Di Lucia Ramacciotti e Maddalena Sagramoso

La dottoressa Elena Garlaschi è un punto di riferimento per l'Andersen International School, non solo è la Principal, ma è anche la psicologa della scuola. È proprio per il secondo ruolo che ho deciso di intervistarla.

Come è nato lo sportello di ascolto?

Da tanti anni faccio questo lavoro, poi la direzione della scuola mi ha offerto la possibilità dello sportello prima in middle school poi anche in year 6.

C'è stato un esame per diventare psicologa?

Per diventare psicologa ho una laurea in psicologia e sì, ce ne sono stati molti di esami.

Ha avuto subito successo, lo sportello?

Gli studenti non erano ancora pronti, hanno dovuto costruire fiducia e subito dopo è stato un successo

Cosa direbbe ai ragazzi che hanno paura di venire allo sportello?

Come dico sempre, non ho la bacchetta magica per risolvere tutti i problemi, ma il fatto di dirlo a qualcuno aiuta molto.

Ha qualcosa in generale da dire a tutti gli studenti?

Sono molto felice di lavorare in questa scuola ed è importante che tutti capiscano che star bene è importante quanto la grammatica e la geometria.

Qual è il suo animale preferito?

Senza dubbi il gatto.

New Opportunities

Morning Break Clubs at Andersen

This year students are choosing to spend some of their morning breaks participating in organised activities offered by some of the teachers on staff who look forward to sharing their passions with the students.

Chess Club (Tuesday: Y7-Y9)

Participate in a group that teaches

- chess strategy and techniques
- stimulates cross-class interactions
- friendly competition

Newspaper Club (Thursday: Y6-Y9)

Participate in a group that develops skills in

- Leadership
- initiative and organisation
- writing and creativity

Choir (Mon Y4-Y6, Wed Y7-Y9, Thurs Y2-Y3)

Participate in group that teaches

- collaboration
- public performance skills
- development of singing skills



INTERVIEWS

What's Up With Mr. Marek?

By Pietro Bianchini e Francesca Lisa

WHAT ARE THE ACTIVITIES IN PE THIS TERM?

Y5: Volleyball

Y6: Frisbee Ultimate(it's an american football game but with a frisby)

Y7:test(slalom , jump the rope , basket)

Y8:resistance(running)

Y9:athletics(running , jumping ecc...)

Y10: Padel

Y11: Strength Training

What he would like to do at sports day?

Frisbee Ultimate (For Y6)

Mr Marek practises:

Strength Training, football, cycling, skiing, tennis, padel, hiking

Favourite sport:

Football

Monday and Thursday:

He goes to Cesate to do the football coach

Other days:

Study, plays sports or go out for dinner

Mr Marek PE teacher in Primary and High School



Power to the Pupils: Year 6 Launches School Council with Mr Joe

By Francesca Lisa D'Arrigo Bianca Maria Giorgi

In Y6 there is the fantastic opportunity of having a school council! The school council is a role model for younger kids. It will be very busy work because you might have to talk during assemblies with Miss Dee and go talk to the younger children. If you would like to enroll, go to Mr Joe at break time and ask him to join the School Council. Later, during the term the teachers will choose the "House Captains".

Ask for further information from Mr Joe!

Now we will talk to a person that hasn't joined the School Council and we will ask him what he thinks about it: Michele G. We asked him if he thinks that it is boring or busy and he said that he didn't think he could be a role model for younger kids and didn't want to skip breaks.

In the School Council there will be chosen 4 leaders for all the houses which will be changed every month, but school council is more than just that, you will have meetings and will need to support your house by making posters supporting your teams and maybe doing extra things. However, if you decide to participate, it will be a very fun and collaborative experience with your housemates

Mr Joe "intelligent strategist"Year 6



ARTS & CULTURE

Life of a Showgirl

By Virginia Bader

Taylor Swift just released her new album titled *The Life Of A Showgirl* and her movie about this new album titled *The Release Party Of A Showgirl*.

With *The Life Of A Showgirl* she broke records and her new album became the most listened to album of the year on all platforms, overcoming Sabrina Carpenter's album *Man's Best Friend*, which until Taylor Swift's album came out was the most listened to album of the year.

With her movie Taylor sold out cinemas all across the globe filling theatres with millions of dancing and singing fans. This event only lasted from October 3rd to October 5th and she announced it on September 19 in a social media post. The film came to Italy too that weekend, and many fans went to see it.

Many people say that there is only one song with a great chorus and that is *Elizabeth Taylor*. Other songs we think are really nice are *CANCELLED*, *The Fate Of Ophelia*, *Father Figure*, *Honey* and *The Life Of A Showgirl* (featuring Sabrina Carpenter). Taylor Swift herself said her favorite track is *Wish List*. The *Fate Of Ophelia* music video is spectacular, giving a lot of showgirl vibes and in the video she shows the outfit she was wearing in the poster of *The Official Release Party Of A Showgirl*.

This album has a lot of catchy songs and songs that make you want to dance and I recommend it.



Art by Sebastiano Casati



Comic by Francesca D'Arriga

HOW TO MAKE A CROCHET PUMPKIN

By Giulia Maria Celeste

Materials: 3mm crochet hook; yarn (preferably orange and green); scissors; needle; stuffing; keychain (optional).

- Work 18* chains with a 3mm crochet hook.
- Turn the work and work double crochets in the chains.
- Turn the work. Then, starting from the back of the first half double crochet, work more double crochets.
- Repeat this process in each round (work half double crochets starting from the back of the first half double crochet until the end of the row).
- Repeat 16* more times.
- Fold the rectangle in half and join the end points by making slip stitches (using the loops behind the half double crochets).
- Cut the yarn, leaving a little extra.
- Bring the inside out.
- Take the needle and zigzag from the top of the visible loops, then pull the thread a little.
- Put the needle through to the other side and stuff the pumpkin.
- Perform step 9.
- Make knots between two lines (the slightly downward side is where you'll pass the thread over the top, then through the other side, and through the pumpkin).
- Repeat until the end.
- Pull the thread and cut it.
- For the stem: change yarn and work 8 single crochets in the magic ring.
- Make a slip stitch.
- 1 chain.
- 2 single crochet . 1 single crochet. x2
- Repeat 10 more times.
- Cut the yarn, leaving a little.
- Sew the circle onto the pumpkin.
- (Add a keychain).



OPINION

K-POP DEMON HUNTERS

By Alice La Russa and Leyla Menegatti

K-pop demon hunters is the film that everybody, and I mean everybody watches. Some people watched it just one time, others five or twenty times!

But "why?" This is the question you need to ask yourself. Is this because of the songs? The outfits? The concept about killing demons? Rumi's voice? We actually don't know. The truth is that everybody loves different things!

There are many interesting points to know about the film: Rumi's first draft was made in 2016 while the film was produced in 2025. This means that it took nine years to make the film, which is a long time to make a film but it was worth it!

Even though it took such a long time to create the film, most people didn't even notice there are some producing mistakes, but don't worry I will clue you in. Here are some examples:

When Rumi picks up a phone the call is already 3 seconds long; when Rumi's voice has something wrong while they are practicing the song Golden, she unzips her collar, when she steps outside the zip is automatically zipped back up again and finally at the end of the film when she sings to bring peace back to the land, her earrings disappear for a bit. It is hard to believe that such a long production effort still allowed for such obvious mistakes.

Many people like the Saja's boys whose logo is a lion and this is because the meaning of Saja in japanies is lion!

Also, each character's hairstyle tells its own story:

Rumi's braid symbolizes self-control, Mira's wild hair represents her independent spirit, and Zoey's split-style hair reflects her double life.

The girl group's look was inspired by real K-pop girl groups (like BLACKPINK, ITZY, and TWICE) with some of their dance moves based on actual TWICE choreography.

I definitely think that the true magic of this film is that it puts together a great combination of dance, music and friendship. Everybody will like it!



Art by Lucia Ramacciotti

HALLOWEEN RECS

By Marlene Arnell

Movies:

The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993) In this film the plot is about the king of the Halloween town (Jack Skellington) accidentally stumbles upon the christmas town. He then decides to remake the typical Christmas toys, making them creepy, which makes Christmas in the real world a nightmare. He also kidnapped Santa Claus with the help of other criminals.

Frankenweenie (2012) is a film about little frankenstein as a child trying to keep his beloved dog sparky a secret.

Beetlejuice (1998) The two main characters ,Barbara and Adam Maitland, are a couple who died in a car accident and are now trapped for 125 years in an afterlife home.

Books:

Stumpkin Stumpkin is a nearly perfect pumpkin;he's round and bright orange,there's only one problem:he has a stump instead of a stem. He longs to be chosen and carved.

Teeny Tiny Ghost This story is about a teeny tiny ghost who lives in a teeny tiny house.

The Crayons Trick or Treat This is a story about Crayons,they love going trick or treating,but when someone opens the door they never know what to say..