

# THE NEWSHAKER

LET'S SHAKE THE NEWS!

St Marc High School newsletter

EDITO

## The Shaker is blooming

March is here: the sun is shining, birds are chirping and the earth is turning green! Okay, maybe March isn't this beautiful, in Nivolas-Vermelle, but even though the flowers are not blooming yet, something is: our wonderful newsletter! This month, a lot happened: attacks took place in New Zealand and the Netherlands, but the news weren't all gloomy: civilian initiatives like the Youth for Climate movement and the Algerian revolts took place, setting a light of hope upon these terrible news. But enough teasing: we wish you the best reading of the beautiful flower that is this March Newshaker!

Soline J.



## FESTIVITIES IN THE USA

### Clover Day

On the 17th of March of this year, like each year, American streets suddenly dyed green. St Patrick - an Irish saint - has been honored by millions of Americans. Irish people were his first worshippers, and brought their traditions when they settled down in America near 1820. The Irish arrived mostly in the cities of Boston and New York and spread through the northern states. Nowadays, St Patrick's Day is celebrated worldwide! But in America, more than 36 cities, such as Philadelphia, San Francisco or Boston organize celebrations. Only the states where Irish settlers had a strong influence are considering it as a federal holiday, such as Pennsylvania, Carolinas, Virginia, Massachusetts... Celebrating St Patrick is a pride, and people love to show it. For example, the Chicago River is dyed in green every year.



Before, plumbers used fluorescein dyed, but now powdered vegetable dye is used, as respecting the environment became more of a priority than before. Irish-American don't go hunting leprechauns clutching pots of gold at the bottom of rainbows. Most of those stereotypes are just made up for tourists. In the USA, more people are celebrating it than in Ireland! Still, they wear green clothes and false shamrocks, but they don't drink green beer nor eat corned beef and cabbages. Some overenthusiastic people even wear red wigs (with beards and hats included), and the little flags are always present. They all sing an anthem, and Irish concerts are displayed during the event. All these new ways of celebrating are rejuvenating the famous tradition, and helping spread the Irish culture throughout the world.

Maelle L.



## THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION REVIEWS

### Should we still celebrate Columbus Day?

On the 7th of this month, the sophomore of the international section took part in their first theme debate about Natives American and settlers. The students performed significant figures of this time such as Christopher Columbus or even the Aztec chief, Moctezuma II, while they discussed about Columbus Day. Mrs Thornton organized a debate in her history class. It was our oral exam about the theme we have been working on. The purpose was to elaborate on argumentation and strategies to convince and persuade the other participants. We represented groups of people, some were religious as the pope Alexander IV, others were Natives and finally some acted Europeans. The characters argued on their position.

Through this discussion, we learned a lot about the proceedings of the conquest as well as the different points of view of the entrants about our perception of Colonization. We prepared the debate in class, one of us was the cheerwoman, Claire and she structured the debate and she allocated us our character, she played the role of Christopher Columbus who of course was in favor of a day dedicated to him. From left to right : Lamalinche, Hernan Cortes, Queen Elizabeth, Pope Alexander IV, Moctezuma II, Bartholemew de las casas and Magellan.  
Leo C.



## The junior's government

While working on American fears in English class with Mme Gouget, the premiere international were asked what type of political ideology they feared. Following this discussion, they came up with what they think is the best political system.

"We decided that the executive branch should have more power, because most political systems are rather slow. But increasing the power that the executive holds is rather risky because it could rapidly lead to dictatorship. The three people who would make up the triumvirate would be called the Heads. These heads would be elected every nine years. These elections would only elect one head, and there would be an election every three years. The Heads get elected by the House, composed of 101 members.



Each MH (member of House) represents 1/101th of the country, meaning that the country or state will have to be divided into 101 regions that have approximately the same population. House elections would happen every five years but the Heads or the House could call for an early election.

Each ministry also has three members, who can have a term of up to nine years, unless the Head decides to change. The main innovation in this new political system is the banning of political parties. As many countries have shown us, political parties create division and conflict. America is the best example, with the Democratic and Republican parties being so aggressive towards each other that laws are very hard to pass because each party is just voting against the other. We want people to vote for a person according to his ideas, not the bigger organisation he is running under."  
Benjamin N.

## SNAPSHOT

### Swing master

Pyrene Delampe will give you the recipe of success !

Pyrene is in 11th grade and she is in international option since middle school. She has always been influenced by her family and her talented brother, she seriously started golf in 2010 in Isle d'Abeau (at 3 Vallons). Firstly, she started by little competitions, then, in 2013 she had her first big competition. Pyrene admitted that she is an individual person, and this is why she likes so much golf : you compete only against yourself. You don't have anyone else to blame when you fail. Pyrene is taking golf really seriously,

while some of us are too lazy to do our homework, she is training 18 hours per week! She knows that to succeed, she must make sacrifices!

No wonder why she won the **French title**, in 2018! She learnt throughout the years how to deal with the anxiety of competitions. Pyrene will have to compete very soon, and take her French baccalauréat, she keeps focused and strong-willed, a role-model!

Naemi A.



Green Book, published from 1936 to 1966. In this movie depicting a racist and homophobic America, what prevails is the true relationship developing between two poles apart protagonists: a discriminated upper-class black man and a working-class white immigrant. This movie is based on the true story of the musician Don Shirley and his driver Frank Anthony Vallelonga Sr. Don't miss it!  
Juliette B.

## ZAPPING



England

No Deal No Brexit

After a year of negotiations, Europe and the United Kingdom finally agreed on a project for the Brexit. However, the British Parliament still does not welcome Theresa May's deal and for the second time, on March 13th, ministers rejected it. Theresa May is now ready to pay a billion pounds to North Ireland to make them accept the compromise, otherwise, as she said, "no deal, no Brexit".

Victoria J.



Algeria

Democracy comes up on Algeria In Algeria, since the end of February, a national democratic movement was born in the youth population to reconsider the political power of their country. Indeed, it has been 20 years that Abdelaziz Bouteflika is at the head of the country. They are calling for a more democratic society, which for instance would respect free speech.

Sebastien F.

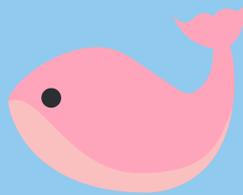
## ZAPPING



### South Africa

"To have a whale of a time "  
Rainer Schimpf, 51, in South Africa  
survived an experience out of a  
biblical passage when he ended up  
almost being swallowed by a whale  
while he was snorkeling off the coast.  
No drama, whales are our friends and  
he ended up safe.

Claire B.



### International WWW

The 12th of March 2019 was the 30th  
birthday of the World Wide Web. 30  
years ago, Tim Berners-Lee, a British  
computer scientist, at CERN,  
submitted the original proposal for  
the web, creating the HTML  
language: a display language to  
"print" the website on somebody's  
screen. He created the web, to help  
communication, to make  
information more accessible to  
everyone. In a recent interview, Tim  
Berners-Lee declared that it was  
sadly straying from its original goal:  
it is now used for hacking,  
propaganda and spying.

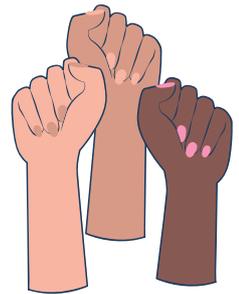
Gabriel R.



## WORLDWIDE

### Balanced for Better

Whether you are a male, a female or  
a cat, you have probably heard of the  
International Women's Day, which is  
held every year on March the eighth.  
Time for a quick History lesson:  
International Women's Day, also  
known as IWD, was created on  
February 28, 1909 by the Socialist  
Party of America. Following this event,  
the 1910 International Socialist  
Woman's Conference suggested a  
Women's Day be held annually. It can  
be noted that the Socialist Party of  
America was then led by a man, Allan  
L. Benson: eleven years before  
American women were officially  
allowed to vote, a man had the  
brilliant idea of dedicating a day to  
women. Nowadays, it is often a time  
for celebration of the greatest women  
of all times, strong females who  
fought for their rights or their  
countries, were talented artists,  
teachers, scientists and way more!



### Planet Girl

Greta Thunberg is a 16-year-old  
Swedish climate activist who decided  
some months ago to go on a school  
strike in front of the Swedish  
parliament every Friday in order to  
stand up against global warming.  
Since her first strike she has been  
delivering talks to journalists, to  
politicians, and the international  
population.  
She has gained worldwide  
recognition since she spoke at the **UN  
Climate Talks in Poland**. Her speech  
at the World Economic Forum in  
Davos, Switzerland struck the public  
when she stated to the global  
economic leaders " on climate  
change, we have to acknowledge  
that we have failed". Since then,  
Greta Thunberg's activism has  
inspired many people so that more  
and more marches or walkouts  
occurred around the world in  
countries such as Japan, Australia, UK,  
Germany, France, Belgium and others.

On the 15th of March, thousands of  
pupils and students went on strike  
against climate change and took to  
the streets to show their concern and  
appeal to political leaders. Hence,  
she was nominated for the Peace  
Prize by three Norwegian MPs  
arguing that if nothing was done to  
stop climate change, it would be the  
cause of wars, conflicts and  
refugees. Greta Thunberg has  
launched a mass movement which is  
considered as a major contribution to  
peace. It is the first time ever that  
such a huge movement is happening  
thanks to a young girl and for the  
Youth. Our future is in our hands, by  
respecting this movement we  
preserve our planet. Join us!  
Sebastien F.

