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THE HOWLER

Voice Of The Pack

ISSUE 1

LOCKED IN: HAS BEGINS ITS 20TH YEAR
READY FOR NEW SUCCESSES



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LOCK-IN: SCHOOL SLEEPOVER

BY: RUDY HSU

Imagine spending an entire night at school, not for classes or studying, but for an unforgettable evening of games, competitions, and bonding with friends. On September 6, students of HAS came together for one of the most anticipated annual events—Lock-in. This event allowed students to stay overnight on campus and have fun participating in various activities. Organized by the student council and Student Activities, the Lock-in aimed to foster a sense of community and strengthen school spirit. With a variety of engaging events lined up, it was designed to encourage students to interact, collaborate, and enjoy themselves throughout the evening.



Lock-in offered a packed schedule of activities, with numerous competitions among the school's houses, creating a fun yet competitive atmosphere. From song guessing to ping pong relay race, students looked forward to friendly rivalries and house pride. As the night progressed, dinner was served—complete with pizza and an array of appetizers to satisfy everyone's tastes. Later, students had the chance to explore special late-night activity rooms, which included a Karaoke room, a gaming zone, a Mahjong room, and other fun surprises planned by the student council.

The significance of Lock-in lay in its ability to bring students together, fostering stronger bonds and a more unified school community. Events like this helped strengthen connections among students, which in turn enhanced school spirit. Looking ahead, Lock-in promised to remain an annual tradition that HAS students could look forward to, and each year it became more exciting and dynamic.

“GOOD, PLAYING VIDEO GAMES ALL NIGHT” — AUSTIN

BUILDING LEADERS: HAS STUDENT COUNCIL RETREAT

BY: ROGER HSU



“I am so excited about the B&B we are going to stay at! It is such a comfortable environment with a bunch of facilities, like mahjong, KTV, board games, and a spa!!!!!!” said one member of StuCo, expressing her excitement before the trip. The Student Retreat was an annual event exclusive to student council members. This year's retreat took place over two days, September 1st and 2nd, 2024, in Yilan. StuCo members were allowed to take a day off from school for the trip. The event focused on developing teamwork, enhancing communication, and promoting leadership skills. During the retreat, participants engaged in activities designed to foster leadership and collaboration. A key highlight was a meeting to discuss the future of the school. It was a fun event that most student council members looked forward to each year.



“I THINK THE RETREAT HELPS FOSTER LEADERSHIP SKILLS BY BONDING US TOGETHER. THROUGH THE TWO-DAY TRIP, I THINK EVERYONE IS MORE CONNECTED AND KNOWS MORE ABOUT EACH OTHER. BY KNOWING MEMBERS MORE, IT IS EASIER TO WORK TOGETHER AND LEAD THE EVENTS!” BY THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT



This trip was significant because it offered student council members a unique opportunity to develop essential skills such as leadership, communication, and collaboration in a relaxed, engaging environment. These experiences not only fostered personal growth but also strengthened the council as a cohesive unit.





HAS CLUB FAIR

BY: RABY BUN

As the new school year begins, students at Hsinchu American School are excited to dive into extracurricular activities that match their passions. The annual Club Fair, held on August 16 in the bustling cafeteria, gave students from all grades the opportunity to explore over 30 different clubs.



The fair was filled with excitement as students interacted with club leaders, learning about everything from sports to community service. For new students, it was a great way to get involved and make friends, while returning students reconnected with their favorite activities or discovered something new to try.

A long-standing tradition, the Club Fair fosters a sense of belonging and helps students explore new interests. With so many options, there's something for everyone to enjoy this year!

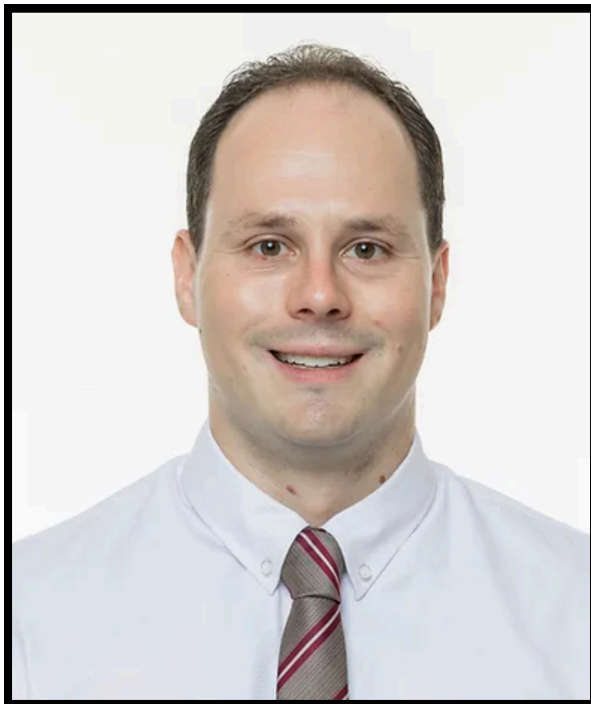




HAS WELCOMES ITS NEW MUSIC TEACHER, MR. BOAS

BY: TONY DING

Hsinchu American School (HAS) is thrilled to have Mr. Felipe Pedro Wiczorek Villas Boas join its staff as its new music teacher this year. Mr. Boas will be teaching music to Elementary and Middle School students and offering specialized classes in Film Score, Pop Music, and Band for High School students. His teaching style focuses on engaging students in listening, performing, and creating music across a range of styles, from Classical to K-pop. Mr. Boas' diverse background, with fluency in four languages and experience living in 11 countries, brings a rich global perspective to his teaching.



Mr. Boas' passion for teaching started in high school and has led him to teach music in Brazil, the US, and Taiwan. When asked about why he started doing music education, Mr. Boas said, "Back when I was in High School, my school decided to run a program in which top students would tutor colleagues who were struggling with their coursework. I joined this program as a tutor, and this is how I started teaching. Not long after that, I started teaching music at a local community program, and I have never stopped teaching music ever since.."

Before joining HAS, Mr. Boas worked at an international school in Taoyuan. At HAS, Mr. Boas looks forward to working closely with students and helping them grow musically. He values interactive and hands-on learning and is excited about the vibrant musical environment at HAS.



**FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO HIGHER
EDUCATION: COLLEGE FAIR**

BY; GIGI HSU



With the start of the new 2024-2025 school year at HAS, we welcome back our fresh batch of seniors and juniors, who are now preparing for a whole new stage of their lives—transitioning from adolescence to adulthood! We’re thrilled to reflect on the fantastic AEO College Fair that took place on Friday, September 6. The fair, featuring a variety of visiting colleges, was exactly what our students needed at this crucial stage of their journey as they begin to decide their future paths. The event included 22 different college booths from all corners of the US, with representatives ready to introduce themselves. This initiative was designed to bring higher education options directly to our students, making the exploration process more accessible and convenient!

It was wonderful to see so many of our students actively engaging in this opportunity to explore their future right here at HAS. The students took full advantage of this unique event by asking questions, exploring different academic programs, and getting a taste of what life could be like at various universities across the US.



The personal interactions with college reps were a highlight of the fair, providing a chance to gain first-hand insights and tailored advice that brochures and websites just can’t always offer. These conversations helped clarify students' options and made the process of choosing a college feel more manageable and less overwhelming. Our college counselor, Mrs. Roman, is always on hand to provide guidance and answer any questions the students might have had about the college selection process. Their support, combined with the direct engagement with university representatives, aimed to help our students feel more confident and informed as they navigate this important decision. Here’s to a whole new year of discovery, learning, and preparation as you pave your path to higher education.





YUSUF DIKEÇ: TÜRKİYE'S OLYMPIC SILVER MARKSMAN

BY: RUDY HSU

Yusuf Dikeç's silver in Paris is more than a medal—it's the result of years of sacrifice and dedication. His triumph marks a proud moment for Türkiye and inspires future champions. Yusuf Dikeç secured the silver medal in shooting for Türkiye at the Paris 2024 Olympics, a testament to his exceptional skill and dedication. Reflecting on his achievement, Dikeç stated, "This silver medal represents years of effort and sacrifice." His success in Paris adds to his distinguished career, which includes multiple European Championship titles.

Held at the historic La Courneuve, the event was a significant milestone for Turkish sports, showcasing the nation's rising presence in shooting. Looking ahead, Dikeç hopes to inspire future athletes and aims for further achievements at upcoming World Championships and the 2028 Olympics.



“HE’S SO IMPRESSIVE” — ROGER HAN



DONALD TRUMP AND RONALD REAGAN: A COMPARISON OF SURVIVING ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS

BY: ROGER HSU

From Reagan to Trump, two assassination attempts shook the nation, exposing the ever-present danger lurking behind America's political stage. Former President Donald Trump recently survived an assassination attempt during a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, evoking memories of the 1981 shooting of President Ronald Reagan. Both incidents involved president/presidential candidate facing direct threats to their lives while in public, leading to discussions about security and the vulnerability of political figures.

“I FEEL LIKE TRUMP IS GONNA WIN THE ELECTION AS A RESULT OF THE FAILURE OF ASSASSINATION

” -RUDY HSU



In 1981, President Ronald Reagan was shot by John Hinckley Jr. outside a hotel in Washington, D.C. Reagan was struck in the chest by a bullet but recovered quickly and returned to his presidential duties. The attempt on Reagan's life resulted in significant changes to presidential security measures.



In July 2024, Donald Trump was shot in the right ear during a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. The assailant, Shane Crooks, reportedly intended to disrupt the event and was shot by the secret service. Despite the injury, Trump resumed his campaign activities shortly after being wounded.





UKRAINE ORDERS EVACUATION OF CITY AS RUSSIA GAINS

BY: TONY DING

In a recent operation, Ukraine announced its withdrawal from a city to address Russia's increasingly powerful military actions. This decision was made to protect civilians in areas severely affected by the ongoing conflict. Ukrainian officials emphasized that "the security of our citizens is our top priority" and highlighted the urgent need to safeguard people from escalating hostilities. The withdrawal is a response to the escalating conflict between Ukraine and Russia, with military operations intensifying across various regions. The Russian army has made significant progress recently, marking a strategic shift in the conflict that could have a broad impact on the political landscape of these regions.



The evacuation process is being coordinated through official announcements to ensure the informed and safe departure of civilians. Ukrainian authorities are providing transportation and temporary shelter for those affected, as the recent fighting has displaced many people. In response, some humanitarian assistance has begun to emerge to support these displaced populations. This evacuation not only underscores the ongoing humanitarian crisis but also highlights the continued instability in Eastern Europe. As the situation develops, there is a growing call for peaceful negotiations and potential international intervention to resolve the conflict. A spokesperson for an international aid organization stated that "the protection of civilians must be our top priority."





DEADPOOL 3 REVIEW

BY: RABY BUN

"Deadpool 3" is a lively and entertaining addition to the Marvel universe, delivering exactly what fans of the franchise have come to expect: sharp humor, thrilling action, and a healthy dose of irreverence. The film feels like a celebration for Marvel enthusiasts, especially those who have been eagerly waiting for Wolverine's return. Ryan Reynolds shines once again as Deadpool, bringing his unique blend of sarcasm and charm to the screen. His performance is full of energy, ensuring that the film is packed with laugh-out-loud moments and witty dialogue.

One of the most exciting aspects of "Deadpool 3" is the unexpected cameos that pop up throughout the film. These appearances are sure to delight fans and add elements of surprise and nostalgia. Hugh Jackman's return as Wolverine is a major highlight, offering audiences a chance to see the beloved character back in action. His dynamic with Reynolds' Deadpool is a joy to watch, creating a blend of humor and camaraderie that fans have been eager to see for years.

The action sequences are another strong point of the movie. They are well-choreographed and filled with the kind of over-the-top violence that has become a hallmark of the "Deadpool" series. The film balances these intense scenes with lighter moments, keeping the tone fun and engaging throughout.

Overall, "Deadpool 3" is a satisfying experience for fans of the character and the Marvel universe. It delivers plenty of humor, action, and nostalgia, making it a fun watch despite its plot issues. For those who have been waiting to see more of Wolverine or just want to enjoy another wild ride with Deadpool, this film is sure to hit the mark.





KAMALA IS THE BRAT: IS AMERICA GOING TO HAVE HER VERY FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT?

BY: CLIO CHEN

Will Kamala Harris become the first female president of the United States? After Biden unexpectedly withdrew from the race on July 24, Vice President Harris quickly took over the position of the Democratic candidate in less than two weeks and achieved a spatial victory in a short period of time. According to the Washington Post, Harris stands at 49 percent to Trump's 45 percent among registered voters in a head-to-head matchup. When third-party candidates are included in the survey, Harris is at 47 percent, Trump at 44 percent, and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. at 5 percent. In early July, Trump stood at 43 percent, Biden at 42 percent, and Kennedy at 9 percent.

Harris has far surpassed Trump by four percentage points in a remarkably short period, significantly reversing the previous decline of the Democratic Party. Mr. Darin Murphy, Head of the American School in Hsinchu, believes that Americans had gone weary of watching two elderly men campaign. The public is calling for younger and more diverse voices, and Harris's identity as a woman with Indian and African-American heritage makes her play exactly into the people's demands. Additionally, her youth helps counter Trump's previous accusations on Biden's health.



Harris's efforts to connect with younger voters are particularly evident in her tweet featuring a new lime green photo styled like Charli XCX's Brat album cover. Charli XCX's new album Brat is trending this summer, and Harris, who has received support from Charlie, has become a popular choice of many young voters.

It seems that Trump needs to stop focusing on Biden's age and face the reality that his current opponent is Harris. Realizing that his previous criticisms about Biden's age are now being turned against him.

