

# THE VOICE

The Official Student Newspaper of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School  
www.thevoiceatssas.com

October 2015



## Saints Win 8th Annual Seminary Hill Cup



Girls Varsity Runners Madison Garrett '16 and Audrey Androus '18 help cross country clinch a Seminary Hill Cup victory. Photo by Maura Durkin '18

## SSSAS Lacrosse Kilt it in Scotland

By Katie Wood '16

Over the summer, members of the SSSAS Girls Lacrosse team had the opportunity to take a 10-day trip to London, England and Edinburgh, Scotland to participate in the U-18 World Festival Lacrosse Tournament. The trip was comprised of more than 70 players from different high schools up and down the east coast, but 24 of them were girls from SSSAS.

When asked about the experience, Coach Kathy Jenkins responded, "I loved taking 24 Saints to play in the lacrosse festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. It was an awesome trip! The girls cheered on the USA in the final of the World Cup. They loved seeing Jersey Boys in London and meeting some of the actors. The girls impressed me with how they found their way in a foreign country and took in all the sights."

The U-18 World Festival was being held at the same venue as the U-19 World Cup, a worldwide lacrosse tournament that happens every four years -- consider it the Olympics of lacrosse. The U-18 festival was more of a fun side attraction to the World Cup, whereas the girls on the World Cup national teams had been practicing for nearly a year in preparation.

The group that we were travelling with was comprised of four different teams, three from the Washington, D.C. area and one from Buffalo, New York. The 23 SSSAS players were spread throughout three of the teams, Potomac, Capital, and HLA.

The trip began with a quick three-day stop in London that included traditional tourist attractions such as Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London, the Crown Jewels, and the London Bridge. The team also competed in a playday at the Wycombe Abbey School outside the city.

The playday was comprised of three games per team. Many of the teams were from the United States, but each team had the opportunity to play the host school's team of British players. It was fascinating seeing these girls with such a different playing style than

ours in the United States. The girls played a hard, fast, aggressive style that was a bit of a contrast to the more poised and skillful game that we are taught in America.

After spending a day at Harrods and getting some real Sicilian pizza and gelato for dinner, we packed up and prepared for the five-hour train ride to Edinburgh the next morning. The train took us through the picturesque English countryside with farmers herding their sheep.

Upon arriving in Scotland, we were shown to our dorm rooms at the University of Edinburgh. In our dorm alone, we had girls from the Scottish, British, German, Australian and United States national teams. For the next four days, each team would play two or three games for half of the day and then spend the other half of the day touring Edinburgh.

Edinburgh was full of quaint little cafes and grand cathedrals. One of the biggest tourist destinations was the Elephant Café, where J.K. Rowling did a lot of the writing for the Harry Potter books, as well as the Edinburgh castle, which we toured.

On the final day of games, the games were an elimination-style tournament in which team HLA, a team with nine SSSAS players, dominated the pool and went on to beat a team from Philadelphia in double overtime to win the tournament.

While many of our most competitive games were against fellow teams from the United States, there were many international teams from Canada, Israel, and England.

Giddings Harrison '16 recalled, "The coolest team that we played was Israel by far. We never would have had the opportunity to meet those girls if we hadn't travelled to Scotland."

We also had the opportunity to walk around and trade little things such as pins, headbands and t-shirts with girls from other nations.

Mattern Burnett '16 said, "It was awesome getting to see the girls from the British U-19 team that we housed when they

continued on pg. 8

### Inside:

- New Teachers
- Fall T.V. Showss
- Fall Sports Season
- Get Set for the Fall Play
- Around the World with Saints
- This year: Senior v. Freshman
- And: World News Page!

## Beware: Fandoms Are Taking Over the World!

By Eden Solomon '16 and Afua Nyantakyi '18

You turn on your computer at 2:00 am to find that you left twenty tabs open when you fell asleep: Pottermore, Youtube, Netflix, Instagram, you can't even keep track. You log into your Tumblr account, eager to catch up on the only current events that really matter to you. You scroll past drawings and stories centered around the person you swear you love more than anything else in the world. Refresh... you're dying, you're literally dying. You have become the heart eyes emoji. I can't even, you think as you fangirl uncontrollably. You can't handle all of the feels; why does my idol have to be such an adorable ball of sunshine ALL THE TIME?! Okay... breathe. You so want to slam your laptop closed and go back to a simpler time when your emotions weren't so conflicted. You inhale a fresh gulp of oxygen in hopes of exhaling all the feels. Nope, can't escape the fandom. You open a new tumblr page of your OTP to take your mind off your woes. I ship them so much, way more than I ship my parents. LOL. You scroll through your instagram feed to see that your ship has sailed. My ship has sailed! I have to tell all my friends. Oh... wait it's photoshopped...

"Fangirl," "Ship," "OTP"- you've had to have heard at least one of these terms before if you are a part of a fandom. With the internet allowing people from all parts of the world to connect with each other, fan communities have grown to become an entire subculture. This subculture category is made up of casual fans and dedicated fandoms. A fandom is more than a collection of fans; it is a collection of obsessive people who idolize a particular aspect of pop culture, from books to youtube.

*The Voice* held an anonymous online survey at SSSAS, yielding results that give insight into fan culture. Out of the 119 survey participants, only 28% of people claimed not to participate in being part of a fandom. Within the 72% who did identify as fans, 33% identified as casual fans while 39% admitted to being part of a fandom. Within those numbers of people who identified as fans, some fandoms were more greatly represented than others.

The greatest fan representation in  
continued on pg. 7

# World News Page: A Digest of This Month's Top Stories

By the Voice Staff

## Germany Welcomes More Refugees

By Afua Nyantakyi '18

A wave of celebration recently occurred when Germany installed its open door policy towards migrants fleeing from war-torn Syria. Countless images are being shared across the web of train stations filled with German citizens kindly welcoming refugees. Germany has been trying to compensate for their tragic past, and hope that this can help them to renew their reputation with the other countries states Henry Chu, contact reporter for The LA Times.

After two months of the policy application, the initial celebration has now been replaced with a sense of realism in Germany. An estimated 10,000 people are arriving every day and it is expected that 800,000 people will be arriving in Germany by the end of this year. With no indication

that these numbers will decrease, Germany is preparing to spend 6.7 billion dollars on migrants next year, according to Kate Connolly, Berlin correspondent of The Guardian.

Unlike Germany, Hungary has taken a less welcoming approach to the situation. The Hungarian government is refusing to allow any refugees to migrate into the country and have built a barbed wire fence around the border. Mass arrests are being held to prevent any migrants from slipping through the border into Hungary.

However, Raziye Akkoc, foreign reporter for The Telegraph states that hundreds of refugees and migrants have found and are travelling through a new route towards places that receive them like Germany, without having to pass through Hungary.



Syrian Refugees

Source: international Business Times

## Syrian Women Suffer Under ISIS

By Katie Wood '16

What do we really know about the Syrian conflict? Nearly every day we are exposed images in the newspaper of hundreds of refugees fleeing their homes in search of safety in another nation. We see hundreds of men crowded onto lifeboats and images of decapitated heads being thrust into the air.

The ultimate cause of this turmoil is a civil war that broke out in 2011 between the Syrian government and various rebel groups, with all sides guilty of gross human rights abuses. The Islamic State, better known as ISIS, became involved in the conflict in 2013. The war has resulted in 200,000 deaths, and more than 11 millions citizens have attempted to flee the country.

While many have expressed their fear and discontent with the government, Syrian women have been subject to a particularly horrific form of suffering, reports The Washington Post. "Women can quickly find themselves part of an institutionalized, near-assembly-line system to provide fighters with wives, sex and children," The Washington Post printed.

A Syrian woman by the name of Nabihah recalled a friend's daughter being told, "Either you marry a fighter, or we will cut off your head and hang it in the square." Additionally, after a fighter is killed, his widow is given a period of four months and ten days to grieve and she is then married off to another fighter.

According to The Washington Post, "by definition, the Islamic State will nearly always be at war, as its stated goal is to establish a global caliphate by force." Due to the ongoing fighting of the Islamic State, women will continually be subjected to the cruelty of forced marriages and the possibility of being killed for defying a fighter.

## Prison Debate Team Defeats Harvard

By Eden Solomon '16

The Eastern New York Correctional facility is a maximum-security prison located in Napanoch, New York for adult males. Last month, the facility's debate team-- that's right, debate team-- went up against that of none other than the renowned Harvard.

At the facility, prisoners are given the opportunity to "take courses taught by faculty from nearby Bard College," according to the New York Post. Several educated prisoners have formed a debate club, which has grown in popularity within the prison. The team invited Harvard's team, a team of world champions, to a debate, and Harvard accepted this challenge.

"If we win, it's going to make a lot of people question what goes on in here," Alex Hall, one of the facility's team's members, told the Washington Post, "We might not be as naturally rhetorically gifted, but we work really hard."

During the debate last month, the team of three prisoners had to support an argument it did not agree with: "Public schools should be allowed to turn away students whose parents entered the U.S. illegally," reported the New York Post. Regardless, the prisoners put their own views aside and came up with an argument that was ultimately stronger than that of their opponents; and "a panel of neutral judges declared the inmates victorious," said the New York Post.

In response to the debate, the Harvard team posted this on twitter: "This weekend, three members of the HCDU had the privilege of competing against members of the Bard Prison Initiative's debate program. There are few teams we are prouder of having lost a debate to than the phenomenally intelligent and articulate team we faced this weekend, and we are incredibly thankful to Bard and the Eastern New York Correctional Facility for the work they do and for organizing this event."

## FIFA Corruption: A Qatarstrophe

By Jacob Lipton '17

Sepp Blatter, the President of FIFA, and two other top officials are receiving suspensions for the infringement of FIFA's ethics code surrounding the bidding process for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups, The New York Times reported last week.

Chris Eaton, "Executive Director for Sport Integrity at the ICSS and Former Australian Federal Police, INTERPOL & FIFA" as he's listed on his twitter bio, has expressed through twitter that issues with FIFA have been persistent for more than 15 years. He also said that it was the U.S. that finally was able to get legal action from the Swiss, "Let's not forget while this FIFA disaster has been gestating for 15+ years, it took the surgical approach of US law to excite Swiss action."

This is all a result of suspected corruption within the FIFA organization, who is a tax-exempt non profit organization that generated over \$2 billion in revenue in 2014, CNN reports. The corruption all stems from corruption surrounding the decision to host the next World Cups in 2018 and 2022. These World Cups will still go on however, despite the allegations surrounding their legitimacy.

The ban on the top three officials lasts 90 days, but can be extended up to 45 days more. Former Vice President Chung Mong-joon was also suspended for six years and fined over \$100,000. FIFA said that Mr. Blatter "is not allowed to represent FIFA in any capacity, act on the organization's behalf, or communicate to media or other stakeholders as a FIFA representative."

This has all come at a poor time, as the two other officials banned are in the race to replace Blatter as president after he resigns. It is unclear whether or not they will be able to continue their campaign.



As a protest against the FIFA president for his involvement in corruption, comedian Simon Brodtkin illegally entered the FIFA press conference and showered Blatter in money.

## Other Headlines This Month

*The Washington Post*: "Obama outlines plan to delay troop withdrawal from Afghanistan"

*The New York Times*: "Kansas Voter ID Law Said to Discourage Young Voters"

*Los Angeles Times*: "Aggressive mosquitoes carrying deadly diseases found in California"

## Senior Year Musings

By Adrienne Atkins '16

The school year didn't really start on September 9th. It started with the open studio sessions, pre-season practices, preparing-for-school meetings, college-essay classes, and "I haven't seen you all summer!" hangouts. In fact, when I walked through the doors on the official first day, it almost felt like school had never ended and we picked up right where we left off, since there were no new students, and the campus was familiar as could be.

As I met my freshmen peer advisory on registration day morning, I realized how much had changed since I went through the same nervous process three years ago. I asked them what they were excited for and any questions they might have, getting a general consensus that they didn't know what to expect but were most afraid of getting lost. I remembered how big the school seemed from their position and how I spent those first days mainly trying not to step on too many upperclassman toes while exploring new freedoms.

When the time came for seniors to register, I didn't feel that sense of newness. Instead of wandering around lost, I paused to talk to teachers and peers that I hadn't seen in awhile. I didn't feel the need to put my head down; I had a new confidence that comes from being at the top of the food chain, so to speak. In some ways, small details, other opinions, and gossip didn't really matter anymore. The next day, the first of many lasts began-- my last first day at SSSAS. This day was long-awaited and somewhat dreaded. I didn't know what came with being a senior.

Most of the changes between freshman year and now have been gradual. As a grade, 2016s have shifted from bench players to captains, club-members to presidents, shy, awkward kids to confident, I dare say it, young adults. It's easy to wonder how much will continue to change in the next year, especially as I find out where my peers will each create their own lives for the next four years in college.

One thing that has changed this year is the administration's emphasis on the importance of the senior class's role in the community. However, we are still trying to figure out how to step into this empty space left from the graduated class before us. These first few days felt like I was leaning in to hear some big secret about what makes senior year so special. To all you underclassmen-- this does not exist. Nothing suddenly noticeable changes, besides the constant reminder to set an example for the school and to make the most of senior year. Meanwhile, everyone tries to balance enjoying their last year in high school with the daunting college process. It is all overwhelming, yet underwhelming at the same time.

The beginning of senior year has been a case of nostalgia, gripping the familiarities that make SSSAS seem like home. And as we navigate it, we anticipate the mysterious, yet exciting, future.

## Freshman Year Thoughts

By Kendall Davis '19 and Rachel Suleymanov '19

I told myself that I wasn't nervous. People say it's just like the middle school but better, right? But aren't we supposed to be nervous? At least I won't get lost, right? I've been to the Upper School plenty of times before, during middle school. The first day was chapel dress- just my luck. Because I didn't go school shopping yet, I had to resort to a dress from last year and some shoes I picked up on

## Step Into the Set of 39 Steps

By Afua Nyantakyi '18

The upcoming fall production of The 39 Steps is a fast-paced play following a man named Richard Hannay, as he tries to extricate himself from the complications of accidentally being named a suspect for murder. It is a relatively short play with quick scene and costume changes and exciting sound effects that add to the overall eccentricity of the comedy. In order to portray this story successfully, there needs to be a setting that conveys the space of the story. A group of students and teachers, who work under the blanket term of "Set," take on the challenge of turning a blank canvas into a setting for the play.

Mr. Wade, a new teacher at the SSSAS upper school, did not fail to use his knowledge of set design to guide the students in designing the set. He feels that "adding the fourth dimension of time" makes set design a unique art form. "There's something magical about drawing something then having people experiencing it," he said. Mr. Wade says that everyone is welcome to the ceramics room anytime, where, on the top shelf surrounding the room, are many miniature models of sets that he designed himself.

The process of building the set is mainly student run with faculty supervision. Certain students, including Nicky Gray '16, Nolan Thompson '16, Eric Karsten '16, and many others, show an incredible amount of dedication and professionalism while working on the set.

The major concept for the set is a "stage within a stage" that is meant to create the illusion that the viewer is watching the play from a theatre in the 1930's. The overall theme of The 39 Steps is fast paced and the set adhered to this theme, with exchangeable backdrops and minimal props that are ready to be changed at an instant.

For the first time ever, Eric decided to build a 3D model of the set. He felt that he "wanted to create a 3D representation of the set because usually we just have drawings, and they do a poor job of conveying how the set will look to the actors and the set crew. The physical model lets the set be viewed as it will look in real life." He also admitted that although being a part of set crew can be a lot of work, the positive outcome of that work outweighs the negative. "Without ambition, we would be unable to create the amazing sets that we, as a school community, create."

Mr. Marvin also weighed in on a key component in putting on the fall production, the choice of the play. He stated that his goal is to always "do a variety of shows so we are not repeating ourselves stylistically from one year to the next." He demonstrated this by choosing a comedy this year to follow the tragedy of Richard III performed last year.

The 39 Steps is not a show to miss, not only because of the wonderful resident actors at SSSAS, but also because of the unique, professional set that had a lot of care and effort put into awhile.



Miniature model of CPAC constructed by Eric Karsten '16

Tuesday. I guess I must've been nervous, since I took the side entrance into the school. The sooner I got into my Mom's office the better, I thought. While most of the other kids were probably meeting up with friends, I was hiding in my Mom's office, trying to figure out what to do next. Eventually, I mindlessly followed the crowd of students down the main stairway and to the CPAC. As expected, I sat in the 10th grade section with the other disoriented freshmen. The rest of the day was a blur. All I can remember is being late to classes, getting lost, standing in the mile long lunch line, getting lost, keeping my head down in the hallways, getting lost, and getting lost. I was somewhat relieved, however, by the fact that pretty much every freshman, returning or new, was confused also. This was comforting over the next few days, as I started to get used to the Upper School. ~Kendall Davis '19

On the first day of school, my silence was an indicator of just how nervous I was. I had come from a different middle school with only two other people of whom I saw very little. I remember not knowing where to sit during morning meetings or lunch, what to say and do in class, and how to interact with the other people in my grade. However, the nervousness wore off as the days went by, and I found myself sitting among my group of friends, most of whom I had met through volleyball. Now, in the cafeteria, we're the table that has to make room for another table's worth of people; we sometimes even combine two tables to fit everyone. During morning meeting we save each other's seats, and in class we have loud discussions. Throughout the grade there is an overall effort of figuring each other out, figuring ourselves out, and figuring out where and when our next classes will be. ~Rachel Suleymanov '19



### Quantico, Sept. 27, ABC

Quantico is quickly getting branded as a soap-opera-terrorist-drama-twisty-mystery, which is a lot of labels to cram into a T.V. show. In the present, Alex Parrish (Priyanka Chopra) finds herself accused of a devastating terrorist attack in Manhattan. The show then proceeds to leap back about a year earlier, to Alex's arrival at the Quantico FBI Academy and her rigorous instruction to be an FBI agent. The real hook that will keep audiences engaged is the search for the answer to this question: Just who orchestrated the terrorist attack? Quantico sounds like perfect binge-watching material, and not much more: Huffington Post called it "Sleek trash."



### The Grinder, Sept. 29, Fox

Parks and Rec has left our screen, but not Rob Lowe. NBC's perkier office bureaucrat has graced T.V. screens again. In this case, art is imitating life; Lowe plays a T.V. actor who, after eight seasons playing a charismatic lawyer on T.V., decides to retire The Grinder character and return home. This is met with much annoyance by his brother, an unsuccessful practicing lawyer. If you only have time for one T.V. show this fall, The Grinder is a good choice; Rotten Tomatoes rates it the highest comedy on this list.



### Code Black, Sept. 30, CBS

Medical shows are tricky. They can either be wonderful successes (think ER) or suffer from implausibility and be cancelled tragically too soon (Emily Owens, M.D.). It's not clear yet which type Code Black is. Set in the infamous Los Angeles County General Hospital Emergency room, the show's title refers to a unique situation when the ER patients outnumber the resources available. Dr. Leanne Rorish (Marcia Gay Harden from How To Get Away With Murder) is the tough head doctor who challenges authority while also corralling a pack of residents. The trailer is packed with a lot of clichés, but if you can stomach some weak dialogue, Code Black could be perfect escapism television.

## Fall T.V. Preview

By Katie Connor '16

Are we in another Golden Age of television?

It's a question that's been thrown around a few times, usually followed by a list of high profile T.V. shows, *Mad Men* or *Breaking Bad*, for example. The recent Emmy Awards only adds fuel to this conversation with some history-defining moments—Viola Davis' Best Actress Win, Jon Hamm's Best Actor Win (finally), a slew of wins for Amazon's *Transparent*.

So it is with some anticipation that we look to the new fall season, to see just how good this age is. Some of the following shows have already aired, and some will have to until October or November. These shows include gripping dramas (*The Man in Highcastle*), endearing comedies (*The Grinder*), and plain weirdness (*Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*). Whether we are in another Golden Age or not, it's nice to sit back enjoy television. Here is just a sliver of what has and will appear on your screens.



### Supergirl October 26, CBS

The most surprising show that has come out of this fall season is probably *Supergirl*. As a child, the eponymous Supergirl, Kara Zor-El (Melissa Benoist) gets sent to Earth to take care of her cousin Superman—and then finds out her doesn't need as much protection as she thought. Now, the twenty-something is a low-level assistant in New York-esque city who changes her life when she dons a superhero suit and starts doing Superman's job. The strength found in *Supergirl* is Benoist, who is such a likable main character—which is key for surviving the fall season. While there are a lot of superhero stories on T.V. right now, surely one more can't hurt.



### The Man in High Castle Nov. 20, Amazon

The Man in High Castle dares to beg the question that we sometimes wonder: how would our lives look if one moment in history had differed? 1960s United States is the setting for this Amazon Prime show that tries to answer this question by creating an alternate America where the Axis powers won World War II. Two American citizens (Luke Kleintank and Alex Davalos) try to undermine the regime and get caught up in a dangerous web. The show looks polished and tantalizing enough to keep you engrossed for more.



### Crazy Ex-Girlfriend Oct 12, CW

*Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* is about just that: a woman who acts a lot like a crazy ex-girlfriend. It's also about a west coast town two hours from the beach, really big pretzels, and flashy musical numbers. Manhattan lawyer Rebecca Bunch drops everything from her old life and moves to West Covina, California ("Only two hours from the beach—four in traffic," the inhabitants chirp), to follow her high school soulmate. When she arrives, however, she finds that her true love actually has a love of his own. *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* got a lot of praise, but its excessive campiness isn't for everyone.



### Flesh and Bone, Nov. 8 Starz

There's something about the world of ballet. Starz has decided to explore this world with *Flesh and Bone*, which looks at the ballet world through a seedier lens than we might be used to. A young woman (Sarah Hay) escapes her dark past for New York City, where she joins the (non-existent) American Ballet Company under its temperamental director (Ben Daniels). It's certainly one of the darkest shows (think *Black Swan*) appearing this season, and not for everyone.

### What Are You Watching This Fall?

**Bit Brown '16:** *Criminal Minds*

**Ian Thompson '16:** *South Park*

**Adele Reardon '17 and Mollie Miller '17:** *Scandal*

**Reagan Blake '18:** *Big Brother*

**Aaron Miller '19:** *The Flash*

**Mr. Kunz:** *Modern Family*

## Who Do You Have?: New Faculty at SSSAS

By Jacob Lipton '17

### Father Miller



SSSAS is the first school that Father Miller has taught in, but it is not the first time he has been to SSSAS. "I am originally from Boston, Massachusetts. My family moved to McLean, Virginia when I was a child, and that is when I started attending SSSAS," he told The Voice. Unfortunately, he is still a fan of New England sports, "Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski have made a bad Red Sox season much easier to swallow these past few weeks!" Father Miller has arrived at SSSAS again after years of studying. "I spent the past three years studying for a Master of Divinity degree at Virginia Theological Seminary just down St. Stephen's Road."

He knew that he wanted to pursue religion because of his experiences at SSSAS, so it seems fitting that he return to where he was inspired. "Chapel services at SSSAS were one of my most formative experiences for my vocation now. I found that having an intentional time set aside each week for worship as a full community really influenced my outlook on life. I love learning from and getting to know people, and a career as an ordained minister in the Episcopal Church will provide much opportunity to strengthen my relationship with God in community with others."

Father Miller explained that the students here stand out to him the most, saying, "You, the students, have such bright ideas and an enthusiasm that is contagious." He also thinks positively of the teachers that help shape the young minds of the students. The faculty is a collection of deeply devoted individuals who strive for excellence as teachers, coaches, and mentors, too." In fact, Father Miller thinks so highly of SSSAS as a whole that he said, "Each day at SSSAS is a gift."

### Ms. Payne



A proud Minnesota native has joined the library faculty this year. Ms. Payne is the new library assistant, which is an important job in such a school like ours. All of the research projects we do could not be possible without her help.

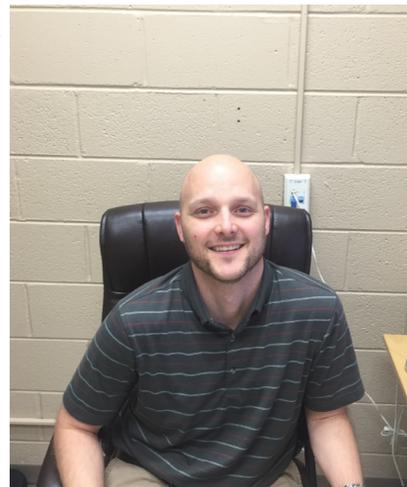
Before Ms. Payne worked here, she was

finishing her Master of Library Science degree and working for the City of Alexandria Public Libraries. But, before that, she was already teaching. "In high school I started teaching a children's Sunday school class. In one way or another I've been teaching ever since. But it wasn't until a few years ago that I realized that this is what I wanted to do with my career as well," she said.

Ms. Payne's first impression of SSSAS came when she got her interview. "The first time I came to interview I was impressed with the heritage of the school, the drive of faculty and staff to provide an environment where students of all ages can achieve," said she. "I saw the students and they were focused, but they still had fun. That is a cultivated balance and I wanted to work in this environment."

Once she started working in the library, she was able to observe the students in our community during their free time when they are not in class. The behavior stood out to her, "Everyone genuinely cares, they care about their students/teachers and their peers," Ms. Payne said. "They aren't afraid to talk to someone from a different social group."

### Mr. Nadelhoffer



The topic of going 1-to-1 (one Apple computer for every SSSAS student) has been raising discussion in our school. In fact, The Voice wrote an article about this very topic last school year. Mr. Nadelhoffer, the new IT faculty member, worked at an Episcopal school in Georgia with this computer policy before he came here. He is from Marietta GA, and taught there before coming to SSSAS.

Before he transitioned to tech support, Mr. Nadelhoffer taught Technology education classes for seven years. This is how he knew he wanted to work in IT in a school. He made the switch to tech support eight years ago, and is now happy to be working at SSSAS.

Mr. Nadelhoffer worked at the Lower School before moving to the Upper School, and described it as "a significant change of pace." He went on to say, "SSSAS is such a welcoming community!" The welcoming community he described is what made him feel so comfortable transitioning into our school. Said he, "I felt 'right at home' from day one."

Community was also the factor that stood out most to him about the entire school as a whole. He praised the faculty and students by saying, "SSSAS has such a rich tradition of excellence and the faculty, staff, and students strive to live up to that tradition daily."

Students rarely visit the IT department unless the Wi-Fi is down or they need a laptop cart. I know that I have only been in there a few times in my three years here at the Upper School. So I encourage you to stop by, even if it is to just say hello; you are further establishing

the community that Mr. Nadelhoffer already thinks of so highly.

### Mr. Hotkowski



Mr. Hotkowski is the new teacher in the science department this year. He was born and raised in a tiny town in Connecticut, and graduated from UConn in May with a B.S. in Physics. He taught while he was there for about a year and a half.

Before the college experience, however, he had already seen teaching as a possible career choice. "Teaching became a major possibility when I was a junior in high school. I had some fantastic mentors and teachers. Their enthusiasm really inspired me to share my passion, physics."

The existing faculty were a huge impression on Mr. Hotkowski. "First and foremost, SSSAS impressed me with its friendly and knowledgeable faculty. I could tell they cared deeply for their work and their subject," said Mr. Hotkowski.

He also said that involvement in athletics stood out to him when he first started. As a physics teacher, he is in touch with the freshman class, which is normally the most detached from school-related clubs and activities. He said, "The athletics program here is an important part of the school and its identity for me. I had never seen a school before with such depth in variety of sports and sportsmanship. I am glad the students are involved in it, even if they do not play sports."

And for any of you wondering, here is the reason behind the hairstyle: "I have donated many things in my life: time, money, blood, and hair. After the second time of donating my hair, I decided to keep some of it, and this was the hairstyle chosen," Mr. Hotkowski explained. "I am a fan of Star Wars, but it is not the primary inspiration. I have had this for 15 months or so now, and I might as well keep it until at least the new Star Wars movie comes out, right?"

### Mr. Wade



What stood out most to Mr. Wade about SSSAS when he originally arrived was "the smiles in the morning of the faculty and

continued on pg. 8

# Have You Joined?

By Edén Solomon '16

One of the most notable things about SSSAS is the wide variety of clubs that it offers to its students. Of the fifty plus clubs available, "many [clubs] will repeat and have been present in our community for years. Everything from non-varsity sports, service, personal interest, arts, cultural, technology, etc. are offered, and anything that isn't has the ability to be made into a club," says Ms. Myhre.

One club that will be returning this year is the Bacon Club. The Bacon Club has been a great hit in previous years because, well, who doesn't love bacon? "The main goals of the club," Sean Dowling '17 says, "are to make and celebrate bacon, but more importantly, make people happy. Be it by putting a fresh piece of bacon into the hands of a hungry customer, or just seeing the smile on someone's face as they run past in the morning then I feel that I'm doing my job." Furthermore, the Bacon Club gives all its profits to various charities, including last year's Haiti trip.

Another returning club is the Gender Sexuality Romantic Minorities Alliance (GSRMA), which educates about and advocates for the LGBTQ community. Anna Godek '16 explains, "We call it gender, sexual, and romantic minorities alliance [instead of gay straight alliance] to emphasize that there are more than just gay and straight people and male and female; sexuality and gender are both spectrums, which often gets overlooked." As demonstrated by the name change, GSRMA serves as a safe space for all members of the SSSAS community, meaning

that LGBTQ people and allies can join. "We will definitely have a black box forum on gender identity, and everyone should come," says Anna, excited for what the upcoming school year holds.

Astronomy Club, led by Eric Karsten '16 and Charlie O'Brien '16, is also returning this year. In addition to holding observing nights, Astronomy club "want[s] to have a morning where we set the telescope up in the main circle for people to look thought as they come in to school. Obviously, there would be no stars out at this time, so we would put in a solar filter and look at the sun (which is generally a bad idea, but with the right equipment, it is fascinating and perfectly safe)," says Eric.

On the flipside, a newly created club is Political Club, led by Javon Price '16 and Matt Weisenfluh '16, which is essentially the combination of the former Young Conservatives Coalition and the People's Democratic Front. Javon and Matt hope to "inform students about politics and the political spectrum, help students develop specific viewpoints on key issues, [and] maintain focus on political news such as the 2016 presidential race," which the majority of the senior class will be able to vote in.

Another new club is the Christmas Club, founded by Lilly Walsh '18 and Grayson Offutt. '18 This is perhaps one of the most creative clubs out there. This club is perfect for those of you who just cannot get enough of Christmas because it will be spreading Christmas cheer all year round. "It will spread positivity in the school community, because everyone loves Christmas!" says Lilly. As for the club's yearly plans, it will have weekly meetings where members will watch a Christmas movie, and

will have a toy drive and bake sales to help the community.

From Video Game Club to Quiz Bowl, there is a club for everyone. And if you do not feel passionate about any of the clubs available, do not fret because you can always start your own. "When the other founders and I started the Bacon Club, nobody took us seriously; not the students and definitely not the teachers. Not even my own mother took us seriously! But by being active and engaging with our peers, we built the Bacon Club into the bastion of excellence that it is today," remarks Sean, "So to people worried about making a club or that their club won't catch on use the Bacon Club as a guide - make your club, and if you are energetic and passionate about it then people will take you seriously and more importantly, you'll have fun. Just put yourselves out there and have fun." For many club leaders, clubs are more than just a hobby because they truly passionate about what they do.

So when you attended the clubs fair October 2nd, did you take advantage of that opportunity to get involved in the SSSAS community? If not, do not worry; there is still time to do so. To the freshman, do not be intimidated by the upperclassmen leaders; just have fun. And to the seniors, it is never too late to find new clubs that spark new interests. So join a club, start a club, not just because it will look good on a college application or because your best friends are all doing it, but because it will allow you to meet new people across grades, learn new things, and generally grow as a person. Every club has something unique to offer, and so do you, so put yourself out there, and find your passion.

# Saints Go Global 2.0

By Chris Doulis '16

Where in the world are SSSAS Saints? Haiti, Greece, China, Nicaragua, France, The Bahamas, Romania. Students have the opportunity to travel to any of these destinations through the newly revamped global travel system.

September 30th marked the first Saints-Go-Global Informational Night. In the past, the travel opportunities have been presented one at a time, but this year one presentation informed both parents and students of everything they needed to know about the seven trips offered to Saints over Spring Break and early summer.

"I hope that putting all the options out there at the same time can make students less indecisive," said Mr. Yee, the newly appointed JK-12 Coordinator of Global Learning, whose duties include organizing the way in which travel opportunities are offered. With the new program, students can make decisions on which trips to go on with all the options laid out in front of them.

"I think if there's one word that describes the change, its intentionality," he

added. "It's in our mission statement to prepare for a complex and changing world; not just Alexandria or the U.S; the world. We want to be able to expose you in as an intentional way as possible to what the world offers. That means we're trying to make decisions that are best for the student body, best for the teachers, and not just decisions that happen to be the most convenient."

The trips all fit into several sub categories. There are two cultural education trips: the Greece trip and the China trip, led by Dr. Grissom and Mr. Lowinger respectively. Both trips are running after a hiatus, and the China trip is facing some major changes. In the past, the trip has taken students to Beijing and then Guilin, location of The Chinese Language Institute. This time, Guilin has been substituted with Shanghai, home of the dumpling. As the trip is a cultural one and not a language one, every student is encouraged to participate, regardless of his or her language skills.

There is also the language exchange trip to Normandy, led by Madame VanWay, and a scientific exploration trip to the Bahamas, led by Mr. Yoder and Ms. Myher. The Bahamas trip is returning after a hiatus as well. There are several service trips, including the trip to Haiti, led by Mr. Yee, and the trip to Romania, led by

Ms. Fusina,

The final service trip is a completely new travel opportunity for our school: a service trip to Nicaragua, led by Ms. Gasper. Students will be put in homestays with two students per each homestay. Hosting the trip is the Central American Service Expeditions (CASE). "We chose this program because we like the mix between the service and the cultural experiences," said Ms. Gasper, "This program is really small and has a deep connection with the community." Not only will this trip include visiting volcanoes, kayaking, and spending time at the beach, but it will also fulfil the service requirement students must complete in order to graduate.

Mr. Yee made it clear that the changes have nothing to do with insurance companies or the potential of SSSAS facing litigation on account of student injury. "That isn't the motivation for changing the system. It's so that students and teachers have an easier time offering travel opportunities that they want to offer. We want to make sure that our chaperones are prepared for what comes their way. Nothing terrible has happened on one of our trips. I trust that we have the right personnel and right students to keep it that way."



Photos from last year's trip to Haiti



# Varsity Fall Sports Mid-Season Recap

By Katie Wood '16 and Jacob Lipton '17

For most teams, the fall season technically began in the summer. Most teams began preseason on August 24th, while football began on the 17th. Pushing through grueling running tests in the ninety-five degree heat ultimately paid off as many of the teams are in the midst of winning seasons. Coach Koroma said, "I think that we've had a really successful start to the fall, you know we have really great numbers on all of the teams which is always nice." With ISL and IAC championships on the horizon, most teams will continue to push through the regular season until the end of October when conference playoffs begin.

## Field Hockey:

The field hockey team is under the leadership of a brand new coaching staff this season. Head coach, Coach Jordan is back from her trip abroad and ready to take the team to new heights along with new assistant coaches Ali Cavin and Eliana Brown. When asked about her perspective on the team Coach Jordan said, "We have a hard working team that fits really well together that I am really excited about." Starting the season strong, the team beat Roland Park Country School in double overtime to win the Sally Nyborg Tournament. The team then fell to state rival Trinity Episcopal who will likely be seen again in the state playoffs and Maryland state champions McDonough. Currently undefeated in ISL play, the team is looking to continue that streak.

## Girls Soccer:

Girls Soccer is in its second season under the leadership of Coach Arnold, with assistance from Coach Helmer and Coach Stone. The team suffered a tough opening loss to Bishop McNamara but came back to beat Holton Arms 6-0 in an ISL matchup. They will look to continue that success in the ISL as they continue throughout the season. Team Captain Posie Paoletta '16 said, "we are really excited about the competition that we have coming up. The team is really working hard to prepare for those games." Other non-conference home games include Georgetown Day School and the School Without Walls, so come out and watch!

## Volleyball:

The volleyball team entered into a new phase with a completely new coaching staff this

season. Head Coach Edina Chinn is being assisted by Coach Jenica Leonard and Coach Jenna Schaller. The team started the season with a win in the ISL, defeating Holton-Arms 3-0. The team then suffered a difficult 2-3 loss to Visitation in a 5 game match. Coach Edina Chinn responded that, "the Saints displayed some strong rallies and aggressive plays." In the future, the team with be playing lots of home matches against Sidwell and Georgetown Day School. However, the highlight of the season will be the annual Dig Pink Game coming up in October in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

## Tennis:

The girls tennis team enters its sixth consecutive season under the coaching team of Coach Japha and Coach Ambrose. Although the team started its season with two difficult ISL losses to Sidwell Friends and Holton-Arms, it eventually bounced back to beat Georgetown Day in a decisive 6-1 win. When asked about the team dynamic, team captain Palmer Voorhees '16 said, "we're going to be pretty competitive this season, it's a really fun group." Girls tennis has lots of home ISL matches coming up in the next few weeks including Flint Hill, Episcopal, and Visitation so come out and support!

## Cross Country:

The cross country team faced a difficult preseason filled with injuries, including a season-ending ACL tear for Mattern Burnett. However, the girl's team just made history, beating the EHS cross country team in the Seminary Hill Cup. Many of the younger runners have stepped up and had great success in their races. Dusty Riles '17 is excited about the runners on the team this year, saying "This year's team is full of people willing to work hard and as a result we share a feeling of comradery that stays with us through ups and downs." Audrey Androus '18 ran a 20:47 at the Bullis Invitational, putting her in second place in the ISL rankings and sixth place in the VISAA rankings. When asked about how the season was going team captain Madison Garrett '16 responded, "This is the best season ever! We have so much fun and everyone has been getting better and dropping time." Garrett is currently ranked third in the ISL and twenty-first in the VISAA.

# Fan Culture Cont'd

different language, you can still enjoy them," says a Kpopper.

One of the downsides of having a busy schedule is, unfortunately, not having time for much of a social life, but at least you're fandom life will always guarantee you a source of fun without having to alter your schedule or leave the comfort of your own home. "There's always something happening and my life is never a bore," shares one student, "well at least my fandom life."

Others join fandoms as a source of happiness during tough times. "The fact that I can listen/watch them and just their voices make me feel better if I'm feeling down," says one student, "They make me happy."

Even the smallest of fan bases can have the most positive effects on people's lives. In addition to providing support during tough times, fandoms also encourage their members to live their best lives outside of the community. "The people I meet in the community always inspire me to be a more outgoing version of myself," shares another student.

One student articulately replied with a possible explanation as to why people enjoy participating in fan-culture so much. "Fandoms are entire subcultures based solely on common interests. Because of this people often feel as if they can express their personalities more freely in fandoms, thus resulting in amazing collections of -- among

## Soccer:

Boys Soccer got an early jump this year having the first week of tryouts on August 24th. The last day of tryouts even included a scrimmage against Bishop Ireton (BI). This early start paid dividends as the team opened the season with solid wins against Woodberry Forest 1-0, and Georgetown Day School 1-0. They also tied a regular season matchup against BI 2-2, and a match against Gonzaga 1-1. Overall, the boys opened the season undefeated in their first six games. However, they received their first loss in a tough away game against Georgetown Prep. This team has hopes of restoring the glory of a winning program like the one we had in 2013. Justin Alexandre '16 thinks that "this year's team has a lot of potential. If we really learn to play well together, then I believe we can do much better than last year's team."

## Football:

The Football team has played four games as of September 26th, and they have all been high scoring affairs. Aside from the season-opening loss where the Saints only scored three points, we have averaged 38 points a game in the first few games of the season (quote about high scoring from player and/or coach). These games include huge wins over Mercersburg Academy (PA) 42-7, Severn School 30-0, and Potomac, 42-0. These make exciting games to come out and watch, as football at SSSAS is the most well-attended sport. The team hopes to keep up the scoring in their next few games when they matchup against teams such as Landon.



other things -- fan theories, fan art, fanfictions and headcanons, and various other creative projects all inspired by the same content. They find love where it may or may not be (shipping), and they create a community of people that might not otherwise know each other. Affiliations with certain fandoms are as strong as those with a sports team, and fans support their OTP (one true pair) in the same way they would a Presidential nominee. Fandoms may be a small part of our society, but their scale does not reduce their significance."

As well as helping those within fandom communities, fandoms often impact the greater communities in the world. "As someone for whom service is a huge aspect of my life, I love that my fandoms have delved into the world of giving back to the world we ALL share no matter your fandom," says a Potterhead, "The Annual Project for Awesome (P4A) set up by the Vlogbrothers in an effort to decrease WorldSuck (the suckiness of the world) benefits countless people worldwide with donations to dozens of charities that work to provide education, healthcare, food, ethical treatment of animals, Environmental sustainability initiatives, etc."

Fan culture has proved to be a prominent part of our society that isn't going anywhere soon. As more and more acronyms are created and teenage heartthrobs emerge, fandoms are stronger than ever.



Above: Team HLA with championship cup

Below: Annie Dyson '18 and Emma Day '18 in front of Buckingham Palace

## Scotland Lacrosse Cont'd

played us last spring at St. Stephen's. It's just nice to have those bonds that last over time."

The most interesting part of the tournament was that many girls on other national teams were United States players who had dual citizenship to another country and had chosen to play for another team to avoid the United States team's competitive tryouts.

On our final day in Edinburgh, we hiked King Arthur's Seat, a mountain overlooking our dorm. The hike was a short but straight uphill climb with rocky terrain that challenged even the most fit lacrosse players. The hike was definitely worth it because at the top, we got to see the beautiful view of all of Edinburgh as well as the North Sea. When asked about the experience, Annie Dyson '18 and Emma Day '18 responded, "It was dope!"

After the hike, all three teams returned to the venue of the World Cup to watch the World Cup finals of the United States versus Canada game. The game ultimately ended unfavorably as Canada beat the United States 9-8 in regulation time.

The trip was an incredible success and a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Said Torie Cox '18, "The trip really wouldn't have been possible without all of the hard work that Coach Jenkins puts in for us. So we really have her to thank for all of our amazing opportunities."



## New Teachers Cont'd

administration." Mr. Wade may be the new 3D visual arts teacher at SSSAS, but he is not new to teaching. "I taught Architecture, Robotics, Stagecraft and Art + Design at a private progressive K-12 day school in Lincoln Park for 12 years," he explained, "Then I taught Scenic Design at the University of Illinois at Chicago for two years before my family relocated to this coast last August. Last year, I taught 1/2 time at Sidwell Friends School in their high school theater department and I taught art 1/2 time at SSSAS in the middle school."

He first knew he wanted to be a teacher when, "In the 8th grade, I had a middle school art teacher tell me that I would make a 'great art teacher one day.'"

But it took him longer to realize that himself. "I did professional theater for a while. I worked all over the world and learned a lot, and one summer I was hired to work on a major film in Chicago, but then I broke my leg so I took a teaching position because I didn't want to be on set for 16 hours a day on crutches," Mr. Wade recounted. The school paid me a salary to "prepare my curriculum" over the summer. My first day at that school when the students came into the theater to stagecraft class I fell in love with teaching. That night I remembered what that middle school teacher had prophesied. Still trying to live up to the "great" part, though."

Mr. Wade feels some pressure to fill the "big shoes" of Ms. D, the previous ceramics teacher who worked at SSSAS for 10+ years. However, he does not feel that there is any pressure to follow what she did exactly. "There was no pressure to follow in her curriculum from anyone but me. She did some amazing things that hopefully one day I will be able to teach. Hopefully one day, I'll be here for 10++ years and she can come back and visit and see the legacy of great artists at SSSAS that she was a part of."

Mr. Wade ultimately wants "to share my passion for creating meaningful art. I want to encourage each student to strive for more than they think is possible and to learn that failure is just a stepping stone on the path to success."

## Halos & HORNS



In

Out

College Applications  
Birkenstocks  
Man bun  
Toasted Graham Latte  
Capitals  
Pope-ocalypse 2015  
Queen Elizabeth II  
"That's What Makes You Wonderful"  
Hurricane Joaquin

Sleep  
Flip flops  
Mullets  
Pumpkin Spice Latte  
Nationals  
Snowpocalypse 2010  
Queen Victoria  
"That's What Makes You Beautiful,"  
Hurricane Sandy

## Mr. Padilla



The new Spanish teacher Mr. Padilla has taught before, but he believes the environment at SSSAS is different from other schools. "I really have been impressed with the professionalism of the entire administration, faculty and staff," says he. "The students have also stood out in that I find them to be curious, inquisitive and eager to learn in a rigorous environment."

Before Mr. Padilla came to SSSAS, he taught Spanish and coached soccer at Saint Anselm's and Washington International School. Mr. Padilla, originally from Columbia, is a native Spanish speaker.

"I knew I wanted to be a teacher when I organized educational and recreational events for a group of diverse, inner-city students during my college summers. The impact that they had on me and vice versa really made me change my perspective on who I was and what I could do as a career," said Mr. Padilla, reflecting on the last teaching he did before he came to SSSAS, at Cesar Chavez Public Charter schools for Public Policy in SE D.C.

Mr. Padilla is also assistant coach to the JV Boys soccer team. When asked about coaching at schools, he said, "I have been coaching soccer and basketball for a long time. I am grateful for the opportunity to teach these sports at SSSAS."



### The Voice Staff:

Katie Connor '16	(Editor-in-Chief)
Eden Solomon '16	(Assistant Editor)
Katie Wood '16	(Assistant Editor)
Jacob Lipton '17	(Staff Writer)
Afua Nyantakyi '18	(Staff Writer)
Mrs. McElroy	(Faculty Advisor)

Contact us! [editors@thevoiceatsssas.com](mailto:editors@thevoiceatsssas.com)