

SETONAIRE

EASTER EDITION | APRIL 2025

STUDENT
COUNCIL WEEK,
TALENT SHOW,
EASTER EGG
HUNT AND MORE!

Fashion & Lifestyle,
Superlatives & Polls,
MSR Spotlight,
Student Spotlights,
Resources, Bible
Verse of the Month,
and Athletes
Changing the World!



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The Creator and Creation

By: Kate Robimon, Editor-in-Chief

The creatures made the mistake, and now they were destined for death. Eternal death. They had no way of returning to how they used to be, in their Garden of Eden, their paradise. They messed up.

The Creator saw his creation, the creatures he created. His creatures that he loved so much, so much so he made them a garden to thrive in. They didn't have to work, they didn't have to toil, their survival was secure. He just asked them for one thing - to obey him.

And they couldn't even do that.

The Creator, within his full rights to abandon his creation, decided to visit them instead. He knew of their wrongdoing, their stab-in-the-back. Yet, he still visited them. Sensing his presence, his creation hid. They felt ashamed.

The Creator, filled with compassion for the young beings he created, decided to give them a helping hand. He promised them that they would not die forever - they would be saved - and that they and him, the Creator, would be reunited once again.

The Creator did not fail in his promise. The Creator sent his son, the perfect extension of himself, who, just like the Creator, was there at the beginning of time and was the beginning of time. The Creator loved his beings so much that he gave them his only son.

His son loved the creatures just as his Father, the Creator, did. He took upon every form of torture - physical, emotional, mental, and verbal - for the creatures. He went as far as to conquer the pinnacle of love - to give up one's life for one's beloved. He died for the creatures. The creatures saw his lifeless body, hanging on the tree. Only then did they see the reality and brutal harshness of the consequences of their mistakes.

The Son's story did not end there. Three days later, the Son resurrected. He had conquered death. The promise his Father made to his creation in the beginning was fulfilled for all of time. Any creature that was brought into this world was made able to be reunited with the Creator.

The Creator, God, created mankind, the creatures, to live in harmony with each other and Him. He created us to love. To love Him, to love each other. Humanity broke the sacred bond and trust of His love when they disobeyed God. It seemed as though nothing could be done to fix this, though. How do you fix something that is broken? How can harmony be restored?

God, as the Father that He is, through his mercy, love, and compassion, sent His Son to save us. His Son, who is one with Him, the Father, and the Holy Spirit (that's the Holy Trinity!), who loved us so much, gave up his life for our shortcomings, failures — all of our sins. He took the burden of the consequences of our sins. Every time he was whipped, hit, pierced, sliced, spit on, rebuked, crowned with thorns, he bore it for us, he thought of us and what was at stake. He died knowing that it was for us, thinking about each of us during each agonizing moment.

He didn't just die and stay put — he conquered death. On the third day after his death, he resurrected from death to life. He overcame the barrier that was stopping humans from reuniting to God — the Creator.

It's because of his sacrifice that everytime we mess up, we can be forgiven and put back on the path straight to heaven.

The People's Pope

By: Leah Nott



Few words can encapsulate the papal reign of Pope Francis other than the word "inclusivity". The approximate twelve years that the world saw Jorge Mario Bergoglio as its pope are marked with a distinct sense of welcome, progress, and acceptance. The humbly approachable, charismatic Pope Francis led the Catholic Church through vengeful pandemics, tumultuous political coups, insurrections, financial crises, and scandals just as rampant as the wars that have raged through the world since 2013. Yet, through each passing challenge, Pope Francis had been an unwavering constant and catalyst of positive progression.

Pope Francis's pontificate began unlike any other, with surprising humility. He resided in a guest house, rather than the ornately embellished papal apartments. He wore simple vestments. His homilies and addresses were filled with humor, truth, and language that was accessible and easy to understand. He drove a Ford Focus around Vatican City. He cooked his own food. This break from the familiar decadence of the papacy was unexpected and unprecedented, yet fully necessary. In many ways, he broke from the lead set by past popes, set in their ways of long-conceived traditions. This return to humbleness earned Pope Francis the ever truthful - and rightfully deserved - nickname of "The People's Pope".

His departure from decadent traditions didn't end there. In terms of debates on social justice and global rights, Pope Francis was often considered a maverick. His ideals and stances were largely shocking in comparison to the orthodox and traditional clergy. He was a critic of the harm capitalism causes for the poor when unregulated; rallying for the inclusivity of the unfortunate. He pushed for the inclusion of immigrants by nations and societies. He included women in the Vatican, and uplifted them to positions among clergy. His compassionate inclusivity is a moving reminder that when Jesus instructed

us to love our neighbors, he didn't list any exceptions. He opened the doors of the Church to those who had been shut out.

He drew the drapes to reveal Church-related issues, not to expose them, but to resolve them. Pope Francis worked towards rectification of the appalling abuse scandals of the church. He became the first pope to testify in the United States' Congress, as he urged for intentional stances to be taken to address the climate crisis. He healed relationships between nations, like that of our own country and Cuba. In many ways, he was an activist and a diplomat.

Pope Francis may not have always complied with the age-old traditions of the Catholic Church - traditions of conservativeness and orthodoxy - but he did follow Jesus's instructions to the very letter; instructions to be loving and inclusive of every person. He prioritized not the traditions of man, but the commands of God. It cannot be denied that he disobeyed this call to love- a word used over eight hundred times in certain translations of the Bible; the very command that Jesus Himself called "The Greatest Commandment". Through inclusivity, progress, and intentional reformation, Pope Francis did nothing if not obey this instruction.

At the age of sixteen - about the age of MSR's student population - a young Jorge Bergoglio first felt the call to priesthood after he stopped by a church during the sunlit hours before an evening of partying. He found himself pulled inside from the busy city, to the church, where a priest unfamiliar to him was waiting. He described a dreamlike feeling of being "grabbed" and led into the confessional. The person he was when he exited the confessional was changed, filled with an indescribable sense of newfound fulfillment and purpose. On April 21st, 2025, at 7:35, Pope Francis passed away from a fatal stroke. He was pulled once again from a tumultuous world, inside into God's home. Even though the sun has set on Pope Francis's pontificate, what still remains are the powerfully compassionate implementations he has applied to the Church. These, in addition to his striking inclusivity and humility, are several of the many factors that made the Catholic Church blessed to be led by him.

TALENT SHOW

By: Mikaila Howell

During Student Council Week, the school hosted an exciting Talent Show where many girls had the opportunity to showcase their talents. From singing and dancing to playing instruments, the performances were full of energy, creativity, and heart.

Amber Keane, Madison Keane, Alyssa Orlowski, Chloe Negron, and Marisa Varley delivered a fun and dynamic dance routine. Kate Robimon and Sasha Smyth captivated everyone by playing the piano and singing a beautiful version of Reckless Love. Elizabeth DeJesus and Anna Maliakal performed "Praise" by Elevation Worship, with Elizabeth singing and playing the guitar, and Anna on the drums.

Lucy Bergquist sang "Country Roads," and Mytri Arjun brought lots of energy while singing "Still Into You" by Paramore. Ysabelle Frum also amazed everyone with her beautiful version of What Happens from The Notebook.

There were even more talented girls who performed, each bringing their unique style to the stage. Overall, every performance was

incredible, making it a wonderful celebration of everyone's hard work and passion.



Elizabeth DeJesus and Anna Maliakal performing Praise by Elevation Worship

DAY OF SERVICE AT MERCY HOUSE

By: Lucy Bergquist

On April 1st, students from Mr. Downey's Liturgy Club took a trip to the Mercy House. The Mercy House, run by the Archdiocese of Newark, helps to support people who are in need of clothing, food, or additional support. The girls sorted food and clothing donations among other tasks. The day of service spent there truly exemplifies putting our faith into action through the girls' contributions to help their community.

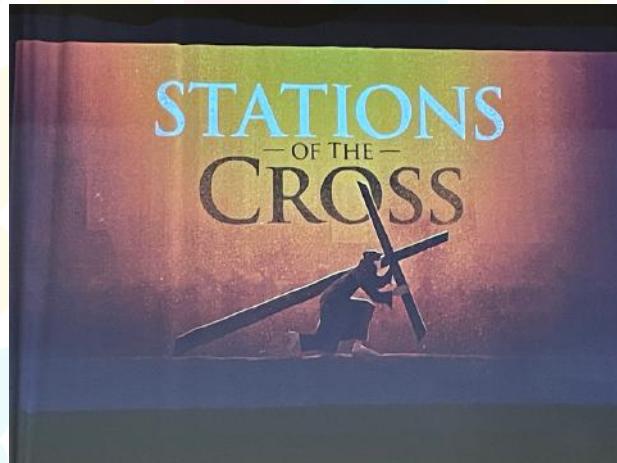
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

By: Elizabeth Rivas

On Monday April 14, MSR held its annual Stations of the Cross. During the stations, Mr. Carroll and sophomores Lucy Bergquist & Anya Czarnota played beautiful solos on every station that was read. Some of our seniors read Gospels and reflections about our lives. After a handful of reflections, freshmen Chloe Negron and Madison Keane performed an outstanding dance performance with the song called What a Beautiful Name by Hillsong Worship. The Seton Ensemble also amazingly sang I am the Bread of Life and You Raise Me Up. Finally, we would like to give a huge shoutout to Mr. Downey for going above and beyond with organizing this Lenten reflection.



MSR Students participating in the Stations of the Cross



MSR Stations of the Cross

EASTER EGG HUNT

By: Sasha Smyth

On a beautiful April Sunday, Mother Seton hosted its second annual Easter Egg Hunt! After a visit from Peter Rabbit, the school gym was a treasure trove of Easter eggs stuffed with goodies for all the children to enjoy. Racing to fill up their baskets to the brim, children between the ages of one to thirteen scoured the gym for these pastel colored eggs, fostering joy and a bit of healthy competition for all the kids along with the sugar rush from their candies. Besides a couple of comedic tumbles from the hay on the gym floor, the Easter Egg hunt had a great turnout and was a hopping success!

STUDENT COUNCIL WEEK

By: Anya Czarnota, Dorothy D'Mello, Olivia Martinez, Sasha Smyth

Mother Seton's annual Student Council Week began on April 7, 2025. The first day's theme was "Anything But a Backpack Day". Throughout the halls of MSR, students were spotted dragging sleds, pushing shopping carts, and carrying pillow cases filled with their school supplies. In addition, the first



activity of the week was introduced: "Minute to Win It!". During mods 5 and 6, students watched as their fellow classmates and teachers were given one minute to compete in various party games ranging from "Mummy Wrapping" to "Cup Stacking" and "Balloon Juggling". Although everyone who participated did a fantastic job, the challenges resulted in the Seniors winning first place.



On day two of Student Council Week, Tuesday, April 8th, the "dress code" for students and teachers was reversed. Students came into school dressed in the classy styles of their teachers, wearing clothing such as cardigans, sports shirts, flower blouses, and denim jackets. Meanwhile, several teachers wore Mother Seton uniforms, complete with students' favorite shoes - UGGS. At the end of the day, everyone gathered in the gym to watch or compete in a fierce game of Dress to Impress, where one representative from each class level ran around the gym, grabbing clothes, hats, bandanas, and other accessories to dress according to a specific theme - all in one minute! Spectators enjoyed the fashion show, but the race to find the perfect outfit definitely gathered the most cheering from the audience!

Are you an athlete, or are you a nerd? During one of the days of Student Council Week, students could dress up as either an athlete or a nerd. Some people part of MSR sports wore their sports uniform with their sneakers, while others dressed as nerds with glasses and suspenders. On this day, classes battled it out in a fiery game of dodgeball. First the freshman and the sophomores went against each other, with the freshmen winning. Then, the juniors versus the seniors, with the seniors winning. Finally the seniors versus the freshman. The senior class had a swift win, ultimately beating the freshmen.



Softball

By: Olivia Martinez

Mother Seton's 2025 Softball season is in full swing! The team had their first game on March 31, 2025 against South Amboy High School. During the event, Seniors Katelynn Moses and Victoria Cunha scored one RBI each. Although MSR's Softball team did not win that game, the teams most recent match against South Amboy shows promise for the Big Dogs as they lost to South Amboy by only one run, with the game's final score being 13-12. Come and support the Big Dogs at their upcoming games! Go Setters!

Track and Field

By: Anna Maliakal

The track team is off to a great start this season, with a remarkable record of 3-1 in meets. Apart from team success, there are also many individual successes to acknowledge. Highlighting some of these successes in the meet against South River, these three girls took first, second, and third places, respectively, in the 100-meter dash: Isabelle Milanes, Laila Payne, and Bridget Duffour. In the 400-meter run, Laila Payne, Natalia Fabio, and Joana Henriques took first, second, and third. In the 800-meter event, Sarah Burnett, Dorothy D'Mello, and Hadiya Richards swept the podium. In the 3,200 meter race, Sarah Burnett, Annabelle Burns, and Dorothy D'Mello swept the podium once again. In the shot put event, Sofia Bonilla, Jada Belin, and Addison Stroh conquered the top three spots. Good luck to the team as they continue on with the season!





Bible Verse of the Month

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."

Galatians 2:20

By: Sarah Jane Accimeus

During the Easter season, we are reminded of what Christ has done for us. He took on our sins on the cross, died, and resurrected so that we could be renewed through Him. In the light of Easter, this verse serves as a reflection on our newly refreshed lives and identity. Because of what Christ has done for us on the cross, we are no longer bound to our past, nor to death. We have been given a new existence through Christ that now reigns in us. This Easter season serves not only as a reminder of history, but also shows us the reality that lives in us as children of God.

THE ANNUAL LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT TRIP

By: Sophia Meneses

For four years, MSR's AP World Language students have looked forward to a special tradition that has brought their studies to life beyond the classroom. Every year, as a celebration for the completion of the MSR World Language AP curriculum, the Spanish IV AP and French IV AP classes take one final outing together, visiting restaurants that reflect their respective cultures.

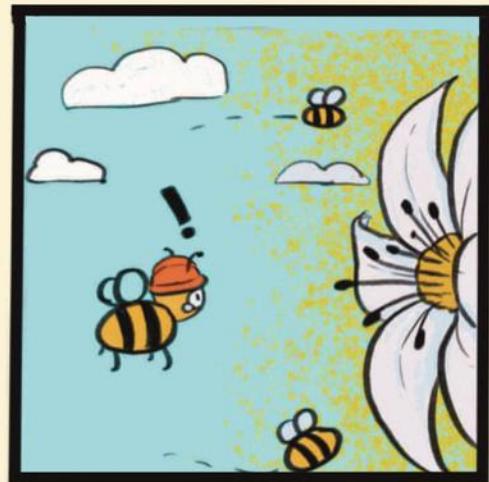
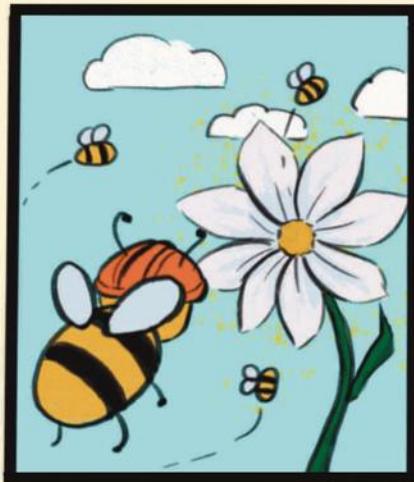
The AP French class's trip has remained consistent, visiting the renowned Café Paris, located in Cranford, since the beginning of our very own Ms. Buontempo's career at MSR, when the café was opened by her dear friend Maire-Thérèse in 2001! They enjoy the richness of a diverse selection of authentic French cuisine, and exercise the French conversational skills they have acquired over their four years of learning the beautiful language. The AP Spanish class also takes their own trip alongside the AP French class on the same day, having visited nearby Spanish restaurants such as the Spanish Tavern, Cervantes of Spain, and

Lidia's Cuban Kitchen, until it closed down. This year, they have found a new Mexican restaurant - La Colina - to attend for the joint trip, where they will enjoy a wide variety of delicious Mexican dishes.

Prior to Café Paris, however, the French class would attend a French play by the National Theatre Company - which unfortunately no longer exists - as their final trip. The students, including Ms. Buontempo, who was a student herself during this time, would see some of the most well-known plays, such as *Tartuffe* and *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* by French playwright Molière, as well as *The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas. Each scene was performed in French and then redone in English! The AP Spanish class would watch Spanish plays performed by the same company, which were run and performed in the same format.

This exciting trip is sure to bring excitement and motivation to any Spanish or French students. The trip is a perfectly sweet way to wrap up four years of learning, and fun too!

NOT WORTH THE BUZZ



BY: DOROTHY D'MELLO AND HAILEY YU

Outfits for Coachella

By: Kaitlin Hao Cuenco

Coachella is full of different styles that allow people to party, and have fun at the big event. People also need to account for the heat when making their outfits for Coachella. Here are some ideas for you, if you ever get to go there!

Flowy skirts:

These are the perfect way to still look cute, while staying a bit cooler; they let your legs breathe a bit. I know people's Coachella outfits often have a cowboy theme, so you can definitely incorporate that into your outfit by wearing boots, and by adding a belt with your skirt. In addition, you can choose a short skirt or a long skirt depending on what you are comfortable with wearing. You could still see skirts as a way to make your outfit cuter, more colors, and have so many different shapes and variations.



Scarves:

When I mean scarves, I mean those thin silky scarves, with a bunch of colors to them. There are so many different ways you can style them: by making a head scarf to shade your head from the sun, or using it like a bandana. I think it is just because they come in a really fun addition to the outfit, and adds more shape - and layers too! - to the fit.

Jorts:

In addition to shorts, there are jorts! I personally like jorts more than regular shorts, because I like to cover my legs a bit more. I think it gives you a more street-style look, if you don't want the cowboy look that a lot of people go for. Once again, it allows you to stay cool as well! Additionally, I think a flattering shoe would be a little more flattering with jorts and with ankle socks. Finally, add any shirt that you like, and some accessories, and you are good!



These are my suggested ingredients to create a great Coachella outfit, one that lets you stay cool while looking good. Of course, you can add more outfits to create whatever fit you like, because everyone comes up with different creative outfit ideas for this big event. So... have fun with it!

Things to Do Before and After Prom

By: Michaella Abongwa

Prom is the most significant event of high school. At least, that's what most high schoolers believe. Since we were little, our favorite movies and TV shows have displayed how exciting prom can be. From a more standard prom, like the one in 10 Things I Hate About You, to a completely unique rendition, like in Disney's Radio Rebel, we've seen prom done in a variety of ways. Hopefully, with this guide for things to do before and after prom, you'll find a way to have the most fun you can possibly have!

Photoshoot

Before you venture off to the "night of nights", you may want to capture some memories of you in your glammed up self. Whether it's just you and your date, or you and your friend group, find a picturesque spot to snap photos. This could be at a park, a waterfront, or like some seniors from the class of 2023, you can go to a local Barnes & Noble.



Playlist

As you're getting ready for prom, you also need something to hype you up and make you energized. Find a music playlist beforehand to jam out to while you're getting ready, or as you're on your way to the event. Perhaps, you and your friends can even make a collaborative playlist for you all to listen to!

Send Off

A send-off is a small pre-prom party that is done at the celebrant's house. A send-off provides an opportunity for family members and relatives to share in this special occasion.

Prom Debrief

Even after prom has ended, the party doesn't need to stop there! You and your friends can plan to meet up somewhere over the weekend to rehash your favorite moments and to keep the fun going. Your prom debrief can be at someone's house or at a nearby restaurant.

Go on an Adventure

Another way that you and your friends can have a good time together is by going on an adventure. The options for this are endless: travel down the Jersey shore, visit an indoor theme park like iPlayAmerica, go roller skating, or bowling. Do whatever your heart desires!



Before you go, here are a few tips for prom in case you're feeling unprepared:

Give yourself enough time: Make a schedule of any appointments or things you need to do beforehand to eliminate any stress and to ensure you arrive on time.

Hydrate! Hydrate! Hydrate!: Most likely, you will be doing a lot of dancing and moving around and it is bound to get quite hot in the venue. Make sure you drink plenty of water the day beforehand and the day of.

Accessories: Once you buy your dress, buy your jewelry, shoes, and other items ASAP. Don't wait till the last minute.

Practice makes perfect: Whether it's breaking in those heels or practicing your makeup look, do what you need to do beforehand so that you're more comfortable on the day of prom.

Beat the heat: If you're wearing your hair down, bring a claw clip, a scrunchie, or even a handheld fan because, like I said, it can get hot.

Be safe: Although it's good to want to have fun and enjoy yourself, make sure the decisions you are making are safe and smart.

Regardless of what you choose to do, I hope you have the best time ever!

Ann Lowe: Author of Spring Style

By: Leah Nott

Nothing is as true an expression of Spring than the bright gowns, delicate designs, and striking florals that seem to reappear each year as the weather warms up. Although these concepts have been used to represent the springtime in fashion for centuries, one woman in particular was a driving force of their unique implementation into couture, in a way that was uniquely American, and uniquely her. This woman created iconically gorgeous gowns for thousands of brides, debutantes, first ladies, and even Jacqueline Kennedy herself. Yet, she remains largely unknown and uncredited. Who is this creative couturier? Ann Lowe.

Ann Lowe was born in a small town in Alabama to her loving mother and maternal grandmother, with whom she lived. The women were liberated slaves, who worked as seamstresses. When Ann was a young girl, her mother and grandmother opened their own dressmaking store, where Ann was raised. As she completed the eighth grade, Ann was a fully-fledged tailor, dressmaker, and seamstress, who was employed at the store. Soon, she was hired to be the live-in seamstress for an affluent Tampa family with four daughters and a mother. Each of the women needed tons of gowns for events, parties, and every day socialite life. Around this time, Lowe attended a New York City design school where she was the only African American student in the entire university. Segregation required her to take classes in a separate room than the other students. Nevertheless, she graduated and earned her degree in half the time. This set her on her way to open her own store. American couture, at the time, was nearly nonexistent. In this era, the United States simply took whatever fashion inspiration they needed from French and other European countries' designs. Unlike other designers, Lowe's work didn't follow European trends; they were completely her own original work.

Her styles were dubbed "Fairytale gowns", which were in high demand from the most prominent, wealthy, Upper-East Side families of New York. The young women needed debutante wardrobes, and the older ones desired wedding gowns. Many of the debutantes returned to Ann Lowe once they were older to be dressed for their weddings too. One of these brides was none other than Jacqueline Kennedy herself, searching for a dress to wear to the wedding of her and President - then Senator - John F Kennedy. At the time, Ann Lowe would receive no public credit for the gown. In the 1960s, business boomed for Lowe, and she made around four million dollars in today's money, per year. When it is taken into account that she had about 35 shop workers putting out over a thousand dresses per year, this statistic becomes even more impressive. Battling with eyesight struggles, as well as financial ones, she took a brief hiatus from couture before opening yet another successful shop.

Anne Lowe's techniques and clear signatures as a designer are what makes her work so easily identified as hers; her distinct voice and design style are unique to her solely. Her creative designs transcend trends, and are simply timeless classics. One of these signatures is the handmade fabric flowers that commonly adorn her works. Lowe first experimented with fabric flowers during the very beginnings of her career, during her

childhood and teenage years. She took inspiration from her blossoming garden to create the beautifully delicate flowers, which she then sewed onto the dresses she created as appliques. These floral themes were recurring throughout her career, and only grew in beauty. Her gowns were known for their wide necklines, empire waists, and beautiful finishes. Each dress was beautiful inside and out. If one was to turn an Ann Lowe dress inside out, they would marvel at the raw fabric edges, finished individually by delicate lace.

It isn't a coincidence that many of today's springtime styles carry these details too. Ann Lowe's gorgeous works, along with their climbing flower vines, are perfect representations of growth, resilience, and of course, Spring!



STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Michaella Abongwa

By: Elizabeth DeJesus

Q: What is your favorite class at MSR?

Right now, it would be APUSH (Shoutout to Miss DiMarzio!!). I find U.S. History to be very interesting, especially now as we're learning about things that have never been discussed before in any of my previous history classes, like the Cold War for example. Another reason is because the work is very minimal and low-key. AP Spanish is a close second for me.

Q: How do you feel about being in an all-girls school?

Honestly, I have to remind myself sometimes that I'm in an all girls school. I feel like it's allowed me to become more comfortable with expressing my opinions and conversing with other students. I like being around like-minded girls, and I'm going to miss it when I go off to college next fall.

Q: What's the hardest class you're taking at the moment and why?

AP PRE-CALC, AP PRE-CALC, AP PRE-CALC! I have always said that God knew I'd be too powerful if I was good at math. But, just because I struggle with this class, doesn't mean that you shouldn't take it. Thankfully, the teacher is merciful and is always willing to help whenever you're struggling.

Q: What activities are you involved in at MSR?

I've kept myself pretty involved with extracurriculars at school. I've been involved with the tennis team, the dance team, track and field, student council, the African-American Culture Club, and the musical. I'm also one of the writers for the Fashion/Lifestyle Section for Setonaire, which you should definitely check out if you haven't yet!

Q: What are you planning to pursue in college?

I committed to the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University to major in Television/Radio/Film. In the future, I hope to pursue a career in broadcast journalism or film production.

Q: What time management techniques do you use?

I actually suck at time management, but don't worry, I've been trying to get better. What usually works for me is handwriting a checklist of tasks I want to accomplish within a given amount of time. I find myself to be way more likely to accomplish my goals when I do that. Also, I use the Pomodoro technique when studying or doing homework.

Q: What advice would you give to an incoming freshman?

Don't be afraid to try new things and join activities at MSR. It's so much easier to make friends that way, especially if you're coming into MSR without knowing anybody. And keep your grades up!! You'll thank yourself in the long run.

Q: What is your favorite thing to do in your spare time?

When I'm home, I'm either listening to music — which I do 24/7 — or I'm watching a movie or TV show. Right now, I'm on season 3 of A Different World (highly recommend). Recently, I've been listening to a lot of Spanish podcasts to improve my Spanish for the AP exam in May.

Trinity John

By: Elizabeth Rivas

In this April student spotlight, we shine our spotlight on sophomore Trinity John, who is involved in Seton Ensemble, our school musical, and more. Here is a Q & A to get to know Trinity.

Q. What was one thing you did over the Easter break?

I went to the Dominican Republic with a bunch of my cousins! It was so fun getting to experience a new country and everything it had to offer.

Q. What is one thing you loved during your sophomore year?

One thing I loved during sophomore year is my musical theatre / music theory elective. Music has always been a huge part of my life, so getting to express my interest and love for it in school has been great!

Q. Can you list all of the things you are involved in at MSR (clubs, extracurricular activities, etc...) and all your academic achievements (honor roll, math and science awards, etc...) so far?

I've been in the Fiber Arts Club, Pickleball Club, Seton Ensemble, our school musical, and Seton Spirit Club. Also, I'm a MSR Ambassador.

Q. What do you love about being a student at MSR?

What I love about being a student at MSR is the balance between having fun, and focusing on academics. We may have tests and quizzes everyday – literally! -- but we always have fun activities and clubs to balance it all out.

Q. Why and how did you decide that MSR was the place for you to be?

I first heard of MSR through my middle school friends, who had come for freshmen for a day and decided it was great! I went as a freshman for a day and I considered MSR a top choice for high school. I decided to come to MSR because throughout my search for high schools, I wanted to look for the school that wouldn't only challenge me academically, but also was a place that would help me grow socially. When I came as a freshman for a day, everyone was so nice and social towards each other, it was like they were one big family.

Q. What is your favorite class at MSR so far?

My favorite class so far has to be chemistry. I always loved and enjoyed science growing up, and I feel like chemistry is a collective of everything I enjoy and love about science. Plus, Mrs. Cunningham is so nice and fun, which makes the class extra enjoyable.

Q. Favorite thing to do in your spare time?

I love listening to music and taking long walks in my town.

Q. Favorite MSR Event?

My favorite event has to be Spirit Week. It's always so great to see people dress up and participate in the activities.

Q. What is something you look forward to for the rest of your sophomore year?

Something I am really looking forward to is completing my final exams.

Q. Even though June is still far away, yet getting closer each day, what is something you are looking forward to going into your junior year?

Having more elective options, and getting to be behind the wheel.

Q. What's something about yourself that most people don't know that would surprise them?

I used to play the ukulele and I'm a very shy person, even though when it comes to my opinions I'm very outgoing.

Emily Abreu

By: Samantha Salazar

Long time no see, Setonaire readers! In this edition, I welcome you to take an inside look at this month's Student Spotlight, freshman Emily Abreu. During this interview, I had the pleasure of sitting down with Emily, who you may have seen making strides on M.S.R.'s volleyball, basketball, and softball teams. Known for her quick wit, Emily never fails to put her heart and dedication, and contagious laugh in everything she does. So sit back, and enjoy getting to know one of your fellow Mother Seton sisters.

Q: Do you play any sports? If so, what sports do you play and why do you like them?

A: I play basketball, softball, and volleyball. I love sports. It helps me with my confidence. When I'm playing a sport, especially basketball, I drown out all the noise. When I'm out there it's just me and the ball.

Q: If you could give your 8th-grade self some advice before entering high school, what would it be?

A: If I could give my 8th-grade self some advice before entering high school, I would say to trust yourself and to let go.

Q: What is one major lesson you learned from this school year?

A: One major lesson I learned from this school year is not to second-guess myself, and to trust myself.

Q: Your favorite memory from school this year?

A: I can't really choose one memory from this year to be my favorite. The whole basketball season was my favorite memory. Basketball is everything to me. Just being out on the court or even on the sidelines, I was having fun.

Q: Is there anything you're nervous about for sophomore year?

A: One thing I'm nervous about for sophomore year is the school work.

Q: How do you stay motivated when school begins to feel overwhelming?

A: When school begins to feel overwhelming, I focus on the outcome. I think of the positive things that will result from all the hard work and effort.

Q: What did you find to be the most challenging in transitioning from middle school to high school?

A: The most challenging thing in transitioning from middle school to high school was making friends. I knew absolutely no one when I came here, but now I made friends with people I didn't think I would be friends with.

Q: What is something you do to reset or de-stress after a stressful school week?

A: Something I do to reset or de-stress after a stressful school week is listen to music. Music helps me relax and forget about all the stress and things going on in my life.

ATHLETES CHANGING THE WORLD

Luka Doncic

By: Mikaila Howell

Luka Dončić is a Slovenian professional basketball player known for his incredible skills. Born on February 28, 1999, he began playing professionally as a teenager with Real Madrid in Spain. In 2018, he was drafted by the Atlanta Hawks but was immediately traded to the Dallas Mavericks, where he became a superstar. Luka Dončić is currently playing for the Los Angeles Lakers. He is famous for his elite scoring and passing, which help lead his team to victory. Most importantly, Luka Dončić is dedicated to influencing young athletes and making a positive impact on

communities around the world as well.

Dončić created a foundation that focuses on youth development, creates positive change worldwide, promotes wellness, and aims to build bridges between cultures through the power of play. Dončić believes that every child should have the opportunity to play basketball. Earlier this year, he donated \$500,000 to wildfire recovery efforts in Los Angeles through his foundation. He is committed to helping rebuild basketball courts, playgrounds, and fields that were destroyed by the fires, ensuring children have safe places to play. Occasionally, Dončić visits children's hospitals, giving them gift bags filled with clothing, sneakers, and more. Luka Dončić's actions demonstrate his deep commitment to making a positive impact on young people and communities around the world. Through his foundation, generous donations, and personal visits, he continues to create opportunities for children to play, heal, and grow. His efforts inspire others to give back and build a brighter future for the generations to come!



RESOURCES

By: Sarah Jane Accimeus, Lucy Bergquist, and Jordan Harris

AP US History:

Khan Academy provides a thorough overview of the types of questions and material covered on the AP US History exam. You can review topics and even do some practice problems here.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/general-ap-us-history-skills-and-test-strategies/xb87a304a:preparing-for-the-ap-us-history-exam/a/ap-us-history-study-sheet-1>

Sporcle has a lot of quizzes to help brush up your AP US History knowledge before the test. <https://www.sporcle.com/games/tags/apush>

AP Chemistry:

@JeremyKrug on YouTube has a channel dedicated to AP Chem reviews, test prep, and much more. From in depth reviews, to a 15 min course overview for last minute studying, he does it all.

<https://www.youtube.com/@JeremyKrug>

This website provides a helpful timeline on how and when to study all the topics on the AP exam, as well as some useful strategies to ensure your success. <https://www.thescientementor.com/tsm-blog/b/ap-chemistry-exam-prep>

AP Biology

This first link is to a free study guide, examples, and practice, to help anyone study for their AP Bio exam. <https://www.albert.io/blog/ap-biology/>

This second link for AP Bio is to a playlist on YouTube that can help anyone study and practice for the upcoming AP Exams. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLoGgviqq4847VchRdUdvbDPzsp9ResrjD>

AP Psychology

This website has different practice tests and mock exams to prepare for the AP Exam. <https://knowt.com/exams/AP/AP-Psychology>

This quizlet can help anyone study for their AP Psychology exam with different games and tests to practice with.

<https://quizlet.com/11542301/ap-psychology-study-guide-flash-cards/>

AP Spanish

This website has all types of resources to study for the AP Spanish exam all for free. <https://www.albert.io/blog/ap-spanish-language/>

This YouTube playlist can help you study for the AP Spanish exam.

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLoGgviqq4847NrGXhnmp6QnzSwknYH3SJ)

[list=PLoGgviqq4847NrGXhnmp6QnzSwknYH3SJ](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLoGgviqq4847NrGXhnmp6QnzSwknYH3SJ)

AP French

This contains an overview of the course as well as sample questions that may be asked in different forms on the actual exam.

<https://rokakisfrench.weebly.com/ap-french-resources.html>

This site contains notes, flashcards, and other authentic cultural materials that will help on the exam. https://usa.tv5monde.com/en/blog/learn-french-prepare-for-the-ap-french-exam-with-tv5monde-1095650?timezone=America/New_York

AP Lang

These are free AP Lang practice tests for the AP exam.

https://www.varsitytutors.com/ap_english_language-practice-tests

AP British Literature

This pdf is a study guide that contains the basics of what should be covered and known for the AP British Literature exam.

<https://support.ebsco.com/LEX/AP-English-Literature-and-Composition-Study-Guide.pdf>

AP Precalculus

Attached is a link to a pdf that has practice tests for the upcoming exam.
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-precalculus-practice-exam-multiple-choice-section.pdf>

This youtube video is on an entire course review on AP Precalculus to help with the exam. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-18qSbIbVNw>

AP Calculus

This site provides courses that cover all topics that will be covered in the AP Calculus exam. <https://calculus.flippedmath.com/version-2.html>

This pdf is a problem book that contains practice questions on any topic of AP Calculus you might be struggling with.

<https://crunchymath.weebly.com/uploads/8/2/4/0/8240213/apcalcprobbook.pdf>

TIPS & TRICKS FOR FLYING

By: Isabella Hogan

SPRING BREAK IS HERE!!! And with spring break comes a world of traveling. When your parents book those (expensive) flights you and the fam can expect to experience different conditions depending on the type of flight you book and the time in which you book it. There are two general types of flights: international and domestic. Domestic flights are the ones within the country. International flights are as they sound, outside the borders of the United States. Domestic flights are almost always less expensive than international flights. This is due to the fact that when you go over huge bodies of water, like the Atlantic Ocean for example, a bigger or "wide-bodied" plane is required. These wide-bodied planes require more fuel, mechanical equipment, and upkeep in comparison to smaller "narrow-bodied" planes. So if you plan to fly internationally at a longer distance just know you'll be paying the big bucks for that ticket to factor in the cost for the plane. (Money money money 

The time you buy your tickets also means a world of a difference in terms of pricing. Spring break for students is a major time where the

tickets skyrocket in prices just because every flight is in more demand. The same applies for what I like to call "trendy times". What is a trendy time may you ask? Well, I'll explain in detail. Lisbon, Portugal at one point was not a very popular destination amongst tourists. However, at one point the tourism started to skyrocket. More and more people were realizing the beauty that Portugal is. What comes with more people? You guessed it, HIGHER TICKET PRICES. Because traveling to Portugal had become so "trendy," traveling there became more expensive. Word of advice: when you find a hidden gem of a travel destination, gatekeep like your life depends on it. Do you want to experience the beauty of various travel destinations and also keep your pockets happy? Then use these tips and tricks to make the most of your travel time! Your wallet will thank you. 



Click [here](#) to fill
out this edition's
Spring Poll!

Click [here](#) to play
this edition's
Spring Crossword!

Click [here](#) to play
this edition's
Spring themed
Wordle!

Credits

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Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

This year, Easter is rather late in the year and has landed into the beautiful month of April. Easter, along with the turning seasons of winter to spring, invites all of us to refresh and keep going.

I would like to especially thank Hailey Yu for the beautiful cover she designed. She always does such a wonderful job of capturing the essence of the Setonair theme in her covers, and they always look  stunning . We took a long time trying to figure out what the cover should be for this edition. We really couldn't settle on a single idea, so Hailey was given all creative liberties and she, as always, created a masterpiece.

I would also like to give a huge shoutout to Junior Editor Isabella Hogan and Design Editor Leah Nott for all their contributions! Your help never goes unnoticed.

Finally, I would like to thank you readers for making it this far! Your constant support means the world!

Sincerely,
Kate Robimon, Editor-in-Chief