



NewsWeb Crawler

2025 Spring Issue

Spiderweb Learning
by Missy Missy

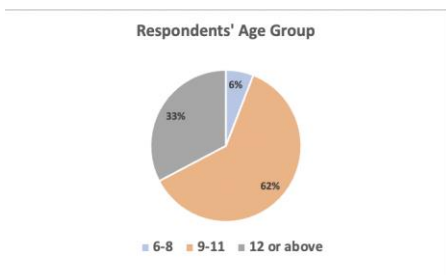


OUR EDUCATION — THE WAY WE WANT IT

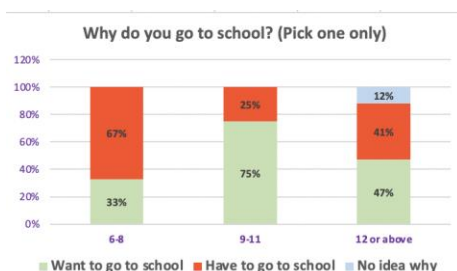
By Sophie Shaw, S1, Diocesan Girls' School

The time we spend at school constitutes a significant proportion of our lives. School education endows us with more than just academic knowledge but also vital social skills. To find out how students perceive their school education and how they want their school to be improved, a survey was conducted among students of Spiderweb Learning.

A total of 52 students took the survey. As the survey was largely filled in at the end of Level 2 and up classes, the majority of respondents are aged 9 or above.

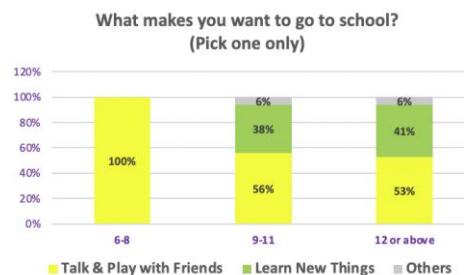


The first question of the survey asks if they go to school out of their own wish or obligation. The findings reveal significant changes by age groups.



Students aged 8 or younger seem to feel that they only go to schools because their parents tell them to. An overwhelming 75% of students aged 9-11 want to go to school. The percentage of students going to school out of their own wish drops rather drastically for secondary school students.

The second question asks the respondents what makes them want to go to school.



For the youngest group, school education seems to be more about fun as all of them cite talking and playing with friends as the reason why they want to go to school.

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OUR EDUCATION – THE WAY WE WANT IT

Interestingly, the results for the two older age groups are almost identical, showing a slightly larger proportion of respondents regard playing and talking with friends as the reason why they want to go to school. 38% of students aged 9-11 and 41% of those aged 12 or above go to school for the acquisition of new knowledge.

The last question in the survey is an open-ended question asking the respondents to name one thing they want to change about their school. The results are then grouped together into 7 categories. The result for the youngest age group is in line with their perception of schools being the place for playing and talking with friends as they focus on facilities and the length of their lunch and recess sessions.

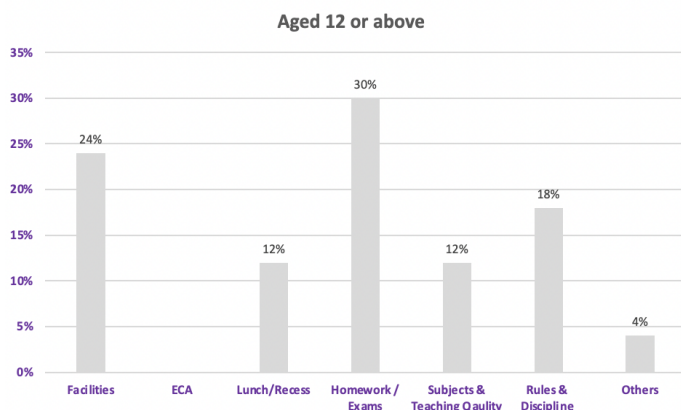
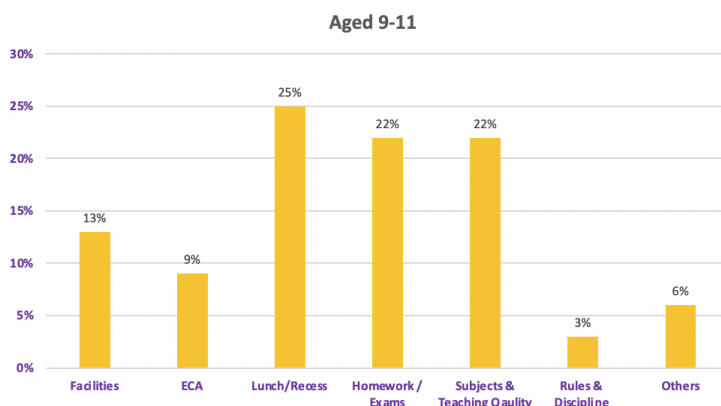
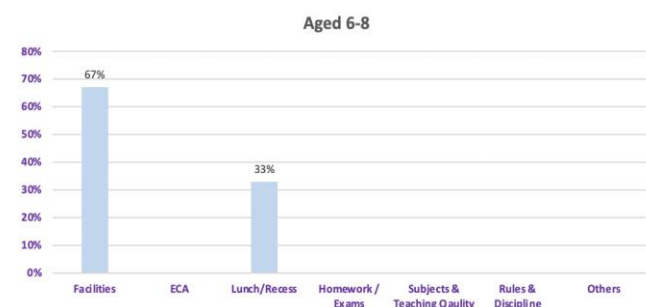
For students aged 9-11, academic concerns begin to surface with 22% of them replying that they would like to see arrangement for their homework and exams to be changed and another 22% expressing that they would like to see changes in subject content and the teaching quality at school.

For students aged 12 or above, academic pressure seems to have risen as 30% of the respondents want to see changes in their homework and exam arrangements. Improvement on school facilities is another area of rising concern among students of this age group. Concerns over rules and regulations have also risen with answers overwhelmingly in favour of stricter rules and regulations.

However, students who want to see improvement in rules and regulations are actually asking for stricter enforcement of school rules to ensure better order in classrooms and to curb bullying at school.

It is also worth noting that for both age groups, concerns regarding homework and exams focus on the excessive amount of homework and the timing and duration of exams. None of the respondents complain about the frequency of exams. Students just want the exams to be compressed into a shorter period and to take place before long holidays.

What do you want to change about your school?





Architecture & Art

Zoom Session with the Guggenheim Museum

By Lulette Ng, P5, St. Paul's Convent School

In January, the iconic Guggenheim Museum offered the students of Spiderweb Learning a virtual tour of their museum, showcasing their architectural style and art collections.

The Guggenheim Museum, located in New York, is an iconic landmark due to its distinctive architectural style. The building was designed by Frank Wright Lloyd. During the session, students were shown photos of the initial 3D model of the building with parts that were eventually removed from the design. The building was inspired by elements of nature and features various shapes such as the circular oculus in the ceiling and the triangular staircase.

Students were introduced to various artwork on display at the Museum, including the "Woman Ironing", an early work by the iconic painter, Picasso. Students were inspired to study the details in the painting that would give us an idea about the living condition of people at the time.

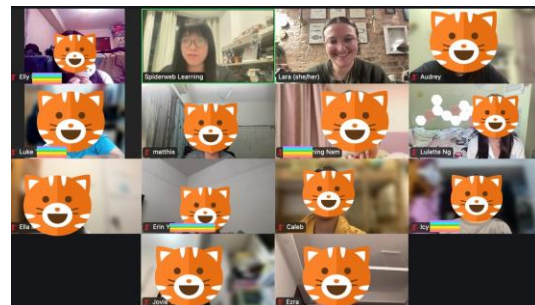
"Mountains at Saint-Rémy" by Vincent Van Gough was then featured in the session. This too was an early piece by the

artist. Van Gough's signature palette was already in use in the painting.

The session taught students how to contextualise art and study the evolution of artistic style. It was an inspiring session that will help students see art, literature and the world around them with a new perspective.



A flat iron from the 19th century



Play Script Writing Workshop With Ciaran Murtagh

By Katy Cheung, P5, Diocesan Girls' Junior School



Spiderweb Learning organised an online writing workshop with the award-winning play script writer, Ciaran Murtagh for their Anthology Series students this semester. Ciaran is best known for being the play script writer for the Mr. Bean cartoon and Shaun the Sheep cartoon.

Ciaran Murtagh is BAFTA award winning play script writer hailed from the UK. BAFTA is the acronym for the British Academy Film Awards, which is widely seen as the British equivalent of the Oscars or the Golden Globe.

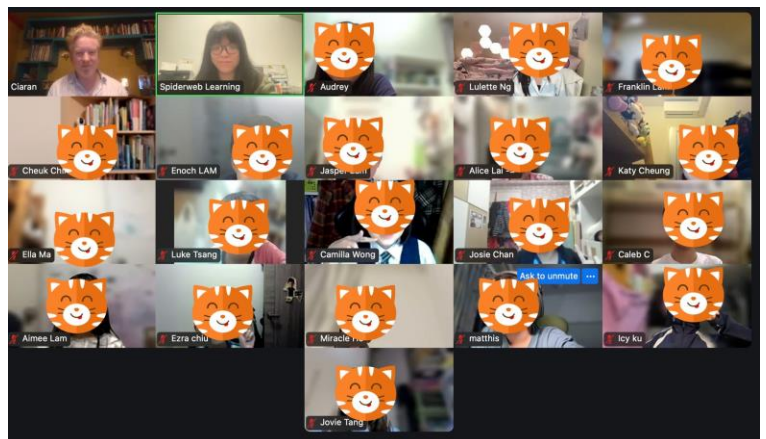
Ciaran started the session by giving an overall view on the planning process for writing a play script. The setting, number of characters, the length of plays and production cost all need to be given thorough consideration.

As Shakespeare would say, "The course of true love never runs smooth", neither should the path of a character's pursuit of their goals in a play. There needs to be hurdles on the way.

Students are then given the task of writing a scene in a play. Ciaran gave students his valuable comments before the end of the session.

A highlight of the session is when Ciaran talked about how he got to work with Rowan Atkinson in the production of the Mr. Bean cartoon.

The session was a great chance for students to learn and showcase their ability and creativity in play script writing. Thanks to Ciaran, students are inspired to think more deeply about the production process behind films, TV programmes and plays.





Last Christmas

By Cheryl Sum, Year 7, The Holt School, UK

Last Christmas, I gave you my heart but the very next day you gave it away.

2023 26th December

"What do you mean? What do you mean you're breaking up with me?" Elizabeth asked desperately.

"I mean what I said Elizabeth, I'm just not interested in you anymore. Please accept it," James said, impatience clearly audible in his voice.

Elizabeth couldn't comprehend what she had just heard. Everything was happening too fast. She could only watch helplessly as the man she cherished packed his bags and slammed the door. For a moment, she could only stare at the closed door blankly; a torrent of thoughts ran through her mind. A hoarse sob was ripped out of her throat as tears flowed down her face uncontrollably. Did the years they spent together mean nothing to him? All those moments when he would wrap his arms around her and tell her how much he loved her flashed through her mind. The thought of those memories made her weep even harder. His betrayal felt worse than a knife in the back. Elizabeth wrapped her head in her arms and let out a cry of anguish. Just then, someone slowly opened the door and a figure peeked in.

"My god Elizabeth, what happened to you?"



2024 Christmas

It had been nearly a year since Leo had found her weeping on the floor. He had embraced and comforted her and before long, they had become a couple. Elizabeth couldn't be happier. Sometimes, she still missed James, but that was all in the past. Plus, Leo truly loved her very much.

"Babe, you done yet?" Leo called from downstairs, "The party is going to begin soon. We'd be late if we don't hurry."

"Just a second," she replied, applying her red lipstick before going downstairs.

They drove to their friend's house for the party but at the entrance, Elizabeth saw a familiar face. *It can't be.* It was James.

And he saw her.

Nervously, James approached Elizabeth.

"Uhm, I know it's been a while, but uh how have you been? Look, I'm sorry about what happened last year. But would you still give me one more chance?"

This time, Elizabeth looked him straight in the eye and smiled, "I'm doing well. I'm with someone now. So... Merry Christmas."

This year, to save me from tears, I will give it to someone special.

Comments from MissyMissy:

I was a bit surprised by the storyline as she is still rather young. I like the first half a lot as the emotions of the character is very well-depicted. The second half is a bit rushed, probably due to the word limit.

And that mental image of Cheryl singing "Last Christmas" is now stuck in my head...

A Haiku Written by MissyMissy



MissyMissy was honoured and humbled to have her poem featured in the "Folk-ku" journal published in the UK again.

This poem is made up of two haikus and one tanka. It is centred around the theme of environmental protection. The last two lines serve as a warning to mankind: we destroy nature but the fates of humans and Mother Nature are intertwined.

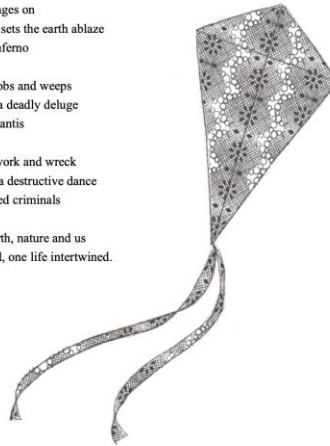
Joanna Lai - Hong Kong SAR

The sun rages on
His wrath sets the earth ablaze
One big inferno

The sky sobs and weeps
Her grief a deadly deluge
Future Atlantis

Humans work and wreck
Our lives a destructive dance
Condemned criminals

Planet Earth, nature and us
One world, one life intertwined.



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Meet The Editorial Team

Editorial Board

Editor.....Joanna Lai

Editorial Committee:

Sophie Shaw (S1, Diocesan Girls' School)

Katy Cheung (P5, Diocesan Girls' Junior School)

Lulette Ng (P5, St. Paul's Convent School)

