

The Jo Baker Times

January 2025

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW!



2024 was such a busy year. A lot has happened: the Paris Olympics, the US presidential election, the 1st anniversary of Josephine Baker high school, and more!

Let's do a recap of this year with the 2nde Euro...





The Jo Baker Times

date



Welcome to the Jo Baker Time newspaper, proudly made by the Seconde Euro students. We've put all our sweat and tears in this, so we hope you enjoy!

First of all we are going to examine the reasons for **Mr. Trump's re-election** - and its consequences. We also have a profile of his new BFF **Elon Musk**.



Secondly, we have a school news section, with stories about **bullying**, **holiday events**, and **school clubs**.

In the Culture and Lifestyle sections, you'll find an article about **1990s nostalgia**, and one about **academic pressure on students**.



Last but not least, in the Sports section, we have a story on the **2028 L.A. Olympic games**, and one about about **Simone Biles** quitting gymnastics.



 ENJOY and
Merry Christmas!





WORLD NEWS

US NEWS SUMMARY



As everyone knows, the US 2024 election was one of the most anticipated events of the year. While some people were convinced Kamala Harris would win, others were strongly standing by Trump's side. Until the very end, the results were unpredictable. The 5th of November, it was announced Donald Trump would be the next US president. The election outcome left some in shock while others were proudly celebrating.

Here in the US news section you will find :

4 to 5 - **A new era for the world?**: what kind of consequences could the US election have

6 to 7 - **A businessman in the government**: what's Elon musk personality?

8 to 9 - **"You're fired!"**: a portrait of Donald Trump

10 - **Wait... What just happened?**: why did Kamala Harris loose in such epic proportions?

11 - **Is journalism dead?**: has the legacy media been outdated by social media platforms?

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15 - **The end of the U.S.?** (*op-ed*)

16 to 17 - **The election through the lens of arts**: how candidates used art in their campaign, and how they inspired artists

A new era for the world?

What kind of impact could the US election have? In a world full of tension and divergent points of view, many are scared of the consequences. But what can really happen? Is World War 3 to be feared?



How much impact will Trump's (notoriously hard-line) policies have on human rights? During his campaign, Trump promised to make the largest deportation operation in U.S. history and continue his border separation policies, which could lead to more tensions with Mexico. Additionally, minorities are worried about injustices and discrimination. He has also advocated for restricting abortion and contraception, while supporting more aggressive policing tactics and downplaying inequalities. Critics have raised concerns about the chosen members of his future government, accusing him of prioritising ideology over expertise.

However, Trump has gained support by reducing gun laws, but this is making people worried because of the numerous shootings. Trump has proposed tax cuts and an increase on foreign taxes, which the Peterson Institute for International Economics warns could increase U.S. inflation from its current 4% to between 7% and 10%.

As a big supporter of fossil fuels, Trump wants to withdraw the U.S. from international climate agreements, including the Paris Agreement, and cut funding, such as those for the wildfires in California. His stance could strain relations between the United States and its international allies.



Fun fact American people who completely disagree with Trump's ideas can go on a 4-year cruise, the duration of his term. Villa Vie Residences created the "skip forward" experience, traveling all over the world's 140 countries. One single room costs US\$ 255,999, whereas a double costs US\$ 309,998. At that price, it's an all-inclusive ticket.

Fun Fact After the election of Donald Trump in 2024, Tesla and X's stocks increased a lot. Tesla's increase of 30% was stimulated by favorable expectations about economic policies. X's stock increased by 18%.

Fun fact The village of Ollolai, in Sardinia, offered to sell houses to American people who aren't in good terms with President Trump. They sold every house to a very low price of 1 euro.

The Trump Shockwave: global repercussions of a controversial presidency

But consequences do not only affect the US: it has a global impact on the world. In fact, we will be impacted by this election, on our geopolitics and diplomatic relations and our economic systems. Trump wants to increase tariffs on imported goods - especially from China -, which could cause the world's GDP to fall, and lead to a "commercial world war".



Trump's election will also impact international relations. Criticizing NATO for a lot of things, such as the lack of military investment, Trump threatened to leave the alliance. NATO would lose its biggest financial, military and strategic support, diminishing its credibility and escalating tensions between the U.S. and its allies. This decline could lead to a rise in nationalism, with countries torn between international cooperation and autonomous defense. In the worst-case scenario, these tensions could trigger a global war.

World War 3: an imminent global threat?

"America is always fighting. We're the one that wants to go to World War III with Russia over Ukraine. So we're the ones always fighting. We're the ones putting up a lot of the money for NATO disproportionately - a lot."

D. Trump

In a World shaken by geopolitical tensions, the question arises of the possible arrival of a new world war. The Ukraine-Russia war, the Israeli-Palestinian war... All these conflicts are putting tensions on the world's relations but what do countries really do about it?

For example Norway, Sweden and Finland's governments are giving their populations books with recommendations about what to do in a critical crisis. Germany anticipates a military World War 3 scenario. Because of the lack of support received by Ukraine, some specialists think that the downfall of Ukraine will be the only possible end of this war. The United States' unclear position about it could accelerate this process.

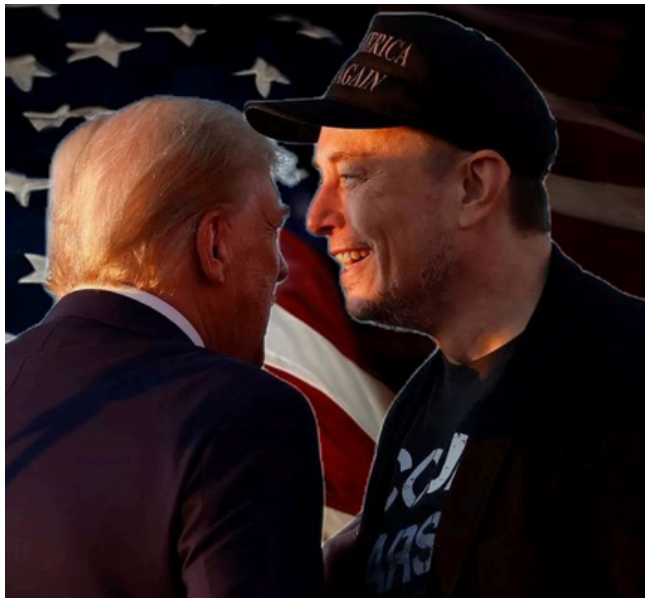


But because of Trump's opinion about NATO, some European countries fear that the US will become allies with Russia and start to put them under pressure and threaten to begin a nuclear war. It could begin by propaganda in social networks, evolve into something resembling a cold war, and end up with nuclear missiles attacks. It would be a total disaster that would probably lead to chaos and an amount of deaths that you can't even imagine, with conflicts for last resources by survivors. But everyone is aware of this danger. Diplomatic relations and negotiations are here to avoid this tragic ending.

It is crucial to remain vigilant and continue strengthening international cooperation mechanisms. In short, while the risks are real, preventing a global conflict is still within our reach. But for now, we don't need to worry about the outbreak of a war, as global powers are focused on maintaining peace and stability. The current situation, though tense, does not suggest an imminent conflict.

A businessman in the government

Elon Musk has grown from an unknown entrepreneur to the richest and the most influential man in the world



Elon Musk was instrumental in Donald Trump's victory in the USA election through his social media influence (he owns X - formerly known as Twitter), his high profile status in the business world and his stance on climate change. He also helped Trump in his campaign by making speeches promoting Trump's ideals.

As a result, Elon Musk has received a key position in the U.S. Department of Government Efficiency. As the government is looking to modernize, Musk's mission is to make government operations simpler and stronger.

A serial entrepreneur

But let's rewind the tape. Musk created X.com in 1999-2002, which is an online payment company. He used money from the sale of Zip2, his first start-up company, to launch it. The company was renamed PayPal, and it was Musk's first major financial success. Then he founded Space Exploration Technologies Corp (SpaceX) in 2002 with the goal of reducing the cost of space travel, and making space exploration more accessible. In 2008, SpaceX successfully launched Falcon 1 into orbit. Since then, SpaceX has revolutionized space travel by developing reusable rockets, and the company has signed contracts with NASA and private customers.

He joined Tesla Motors in 2004. He was not one of the original founders, but he became the face of the company. Tesla's mission was to prove that electric vehicles could perform. Tesla played a huge role in the evolution of the global automobile market, competing with traditional giants like Toyota and Volkswagen.

In 2016 he co-founded Neuralink a company focused on developing brain-computer interface technology. Neuralink's goal is to help humans fuse with artificial intelligence by creating devices that can be implanted on the brain. It has the potential to revolutionize medicine.

Musk was one of the co-founders of OpenAI (2015), dedicated to create an artificial intelligence system. However, he has since distanced himself from the company.

Elon Musk was born on June 28, 1971 in Pretoria, South Africa. His father, Errol, was an electrical engineer, and his mother, Maye, was a model and dietitian. From a young age, Musk showed an interest in computing, science and engineering. In 1989, he joined the Queen's University in Kingston, Canada, then he went to the University of Pennsylvania, US. There, he earned degrees in economics and physics. After graduating, Musk moved to California in 1995 to enter the business world.

His fortune has varied a lot, but his value exploded in the 2020s as Tesla and SpaceX continued to grow. He currently is the richest man on the planet. However, Musk's career is defined not only by his companies, but also by his personality.

He has the ability to directly associate with millions of people and this helps to maintain his massive public profile. Musk has also gotten involved in politics. His approach to free speech, social media governance and the role of technology in democracy has sparked intense debate.



"I think the future of humanity depends on our ability to become a spacefaring civilization"

Elon Musk wants to focus on the long-term survival of humanity, which he believes can be achieved through space colonization, and sustainable energy. His public personality ensures that he remains a central figure of the technology, business and society's future





“You’re fired!”

Oops, he did it again! Donald J. Trump has become the president of the USA for the second time. But how did Donald Trump become Donald Trump ?



In 2016, when Trump was elected as the president of the US, it caught the world by surprise. His populist message and his capacity to use social media played a crucial role in his victory. But this time, he’s coming back from the dead! In spite of his outrageous comments and criminal record, he has become the 45th president of the USA and will serve for a second and last term.

Bankruptcies and financial difficulties

Donald Trump is famous as a businessman but also as a TV star and as a president. In the ‘80s, Trump became a household name thanks to his real estate investments, like the Trump tower, and his presence in the media. He acquired the image of a “self-made man”, a person who succeeded thanks to his perseverance and charisma. However, his career has always been marked by several bankruptcies and financial difficulties. In 2004, Trump became a TV star with *The Apprentice*. This programme shows him as an authoritarian businessman, with sentences that became catchphrases, such as “*You’re fired!*” It reinforced his image as a ruthless manager. His transition to the political world wasn’t hard: he had been flirting with this idea for several years, he was talking about a possible presidential candidacy in 2012. But it was in 2015 that he officially ran for the job of president of the United States. Right from the start, he took a firm position on immigration, and he threw virulent attacks against his rivals. He quickly became popular, and a serious candidate for presidency.





Donald Trump was named “Person of the year” by Time Magazine with some other personalities like Elton John as icon of the year or Lisa Su as CEO of the year. The magazine reminds that Trump faced a trial but got back up. The businessman has a talent for getting up and coming back stronger. The Republican president had already received the award in 2016, after his first victory at the presidency.



Donald John Trump was born in June 1946, in New York City. He is the son of Fred Trump, a real estate developer, so his son was exposed to business from a very young age. Trump studied at Fordham University and two years later he moved to the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1971, Donald, at age 25, took over as the head of the family business, which he re-named “The Trump Organisation”. He took over a major real estate brand including a hotel and a casino, which allowed him to diversify and strengthen his position in the luxury market.



From businessman to president of the US, Donald Trump has reinvented himself at every stage of his career. It’s what makes him unique in his ability to stay true to himself, despite the criticism and scandals.





Wait . . . *What* just happened?

Kamala Harris, the ex vice-president of the United States didn't just loose the 2024 election; she was blown to smithereens by her opponent. Let's see why.



First off, Joe Biden has a big responsibility in her defeat. He quit his job much too late to be replaced correctly. Indeed, as the vice-president, she couldn't run for the election as long as Joe Biden was in the race, so she wasn't able, in 3 months, to prepare a well-founded and solid program to win the support of the American voters. They wanted someone new, someone that could change their everyday life, and as Joe Biden's vice-

president, it was hard for her to appear as being different.

When she was asked whether she would have done something differently from Joe Biden over the past years, she responded during her campaign "*Nothing comes to my mind*", showing the Americans how much she aligned with the continuity of her president. He hasn't highlighted Kamala Harris during his campaign, he always was in the foreground. Additionally, Joe Biden's presidency wasn't favorably reviewed. People were not satisfied and wanted a change.

Secondly, we've seen it during all her campaign, the Hollywood stars were a big part of her strategy. Unfortunately for her, this has been perceived as a sign that the Democratic party sold out to the system. The Hollywood industry is disconnected from the people, a lot of those celebrities are millionaires far from the concerns of middle-class Americans. Those celebrities who endorsed Harris were seen as hypocritical by most Americans, especially Trump supporters.

More importantly, Kamala Harris must have lost a lot of votes by not focusing on the economy. The absence of clarity in her approach to challenges like inflation, rising living costs and job creations, which are a major concern for Americans, hurt her credibility during the election.

Last but not least, the daughter of immigrants (her mother is from India and her dad from Jamaica), in addition to being a woman, she just wasn't the ideal president for most Americans.

But Kamala didn't see this defeat as "*the defeat of Democrats*". "*While I concede this election, I do not concede the fight that fuelled this campaign*", she said. "*Don't ever stop trying to make the world a better place*".



Is journalism dead?

Have social media platforms won the information battle?

“You are the media now”, X owner Elon Musk tweeted after his protégé Donald Trump won the election, suggesting social media now outweighs traditional news organizations. It is a fact that in the last decade, its influence increased a lot. Platforms like Instagram, Tiktok, X (Twitter) and more have **shaped public opinion** and political campaigns and changed how people engage with politics. But how does it differ from traditional newspapers?



Is social media trustworthy?

Social media offers the possibility to get the newest information, but contents are very short so that users don't get bored. Social media, which reaches millions of people (specifically gen Z and millennials) allows users to comment, share and engage in discussions, which helps young people follow the news. But is it trustworthy? People get in touch with the presidential election through memes, viral trends and hashtags. Influencers offer different kinds of contents where no sources are mentioned.

By contrast, traditional media focuses on providing detailed analysis and fact-checked information. Television debates, newspaper editorials, and investigative journalism offer context and depth, which are often missing from social media posts. Traditional media struggles to engage younger audiences, many of whom find long-form content less appealing.

The audience for traditional news outlets is older, with Baby Boomers and Gen X relying on these sources. While these outlets maintain credibility, their less interactive format often leaves them at a disadvantage compared to the real-time nature of social media.

So, who won the battle for information? The answer is up to you. Using both will allow you to have two versions and more details about the same story. In other words, the best of both worlds.



Quick poll

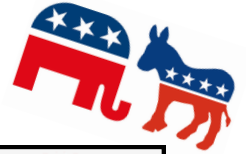
where do you get most of your election news.

- Traditional news
- TikTok
- Instagram
- X (Twitter)
- other

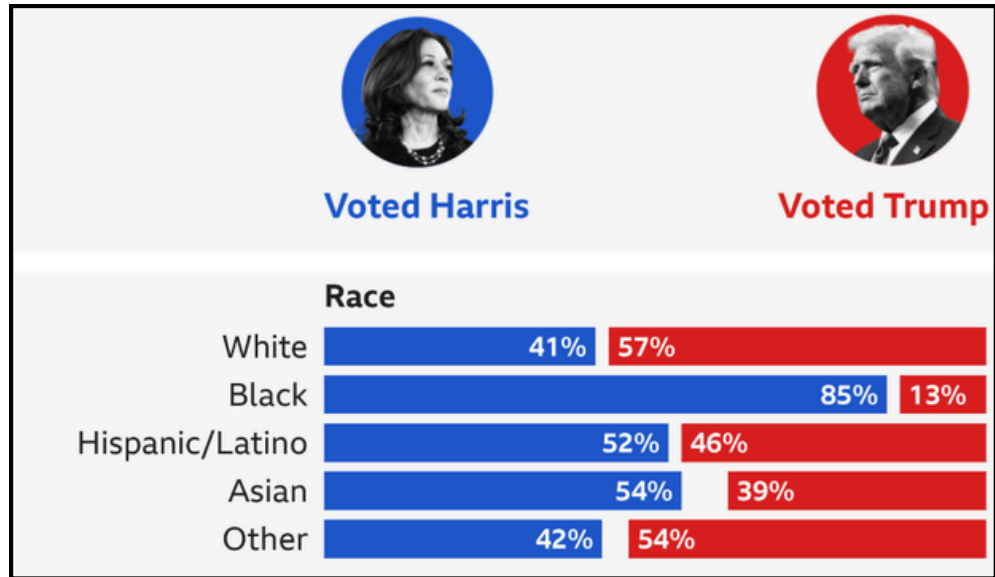
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A particularly strong race gap

There are lots of communities in the United States, and they have their own way of considering the actual issues



The “race gap” refers to voting disparities between different ethnic groups (Blacks, Hispanics, Whites, Asians, etc.) It was particularly pronounced during the 2024 election.



Edison Research/NEP via Reuters

The vote of those communities depend on many factors such as social class. 47% of African-Americans are part of the middle class, versus 49% of Latino Americans, and 52% of White Americans.

This time around, Latino Americans voted more for the Republican party, reducing the gap between Democratic voters (52%) and Republican voters (46%). Lots of Latino people are from the middle and lower class, so they care a lot about the economy, and we know that it’s an important issue for Donald Trump. Same with religious values: Latino Americans are generally Catholic or Protestant, which may go against Kamala Harris’ views on abortion and the LGBTQ+ community.

A gender gap in race gap?

There’s a gap within the gap among Latino Americans because 47% of Latino men voted for the Republican party, while only 38% of Latino women voted for the Republican candidate.

Democrats have always been more in touch with African-American voters than Republicans. Barack Obama was particularly popular with the young Afro-Americans. During her campaign, Kamala Harris tried to continue this tradition, visiting African-American voters in South Carolina for instance, but there was a decrease in support by the Black community, especially amongst Afro-American men.



Battle of the sexes

In the 2024 US election, young American women largely favored Kamala Harris over Donald Trump, while young men favored Trump over Harris

The Democratic candidate has the majority of women voters (54% vs 44%), but there's exactly the same ratio in the opposite direction, in favor of Donald Trump for the men voters. In a poll shared by The New York Times in August, men from every age were more likely to support Trump than Harris, while women in every age were more likely to support Harris than Trump.

In that poll, the biggest gap was among the youngest: 53% of men between 18 and 29 planned to support Mr. Trump, compared to 29% of women. A gender gap of 24%! "*Vice President Kamala Harris is struggling to win support from men. Former President Donald Trump has the same problem with women*", the Wall Street Journal reported.



This divide, known as “gender gap”, can be explained by one of the key issues in each party’s campaign: abortion and reproductive rights. After *Roe vs Wade* was overturned in 2022, some states cancelled the right to abort.

While Harris focused her campaign on promising all American women the right to abortion, her Republican rival avoided the question. His own campaign revolved around a misogynistic rhetoric. Under these circumstances, it’s easy to

understand why more women chose to vote for Harris instead of Trump. They want to be free to abort and to be able to make their own choice.

A historic gender gap?

The tracker average shows a gap that’s wide, but not *that* wide. Gender differences in vote choice in the 2024 elections were similar to recent presidential elections. While election watchers thought that a unique electoral environment (with hot potato issues such as reproductive rights, immigration and the economy) could make for a historic gender gap, polls appear to show that the 2024 gender gap is similar to the one observed in previous elections.



A history of violence

In France, we often hear that American politics is marked by violence, and some even think it's a centuries-old tradition. But is that really the case?

In the US, four presidents were killed during their presidential years, including Abraham Lincoln in 1865, John F. Kennedy in 1963. Three other presidents were injured; Ronald Reagan in 1981, Theodore Roosevelt in 1912... and Donald Trump in 2024. Since the 1800s there have been around 60 politicians that were assassinated, according to Wikipedia.



What factors contribute to the rise or decline of political violence? One of the most important ones is surely gun control. Anyone can have or buy a gun in the US, so the level of gun violence is high. People might be more tempted to kill someone.

How have American institutions responded to incidents of political violence? Firstly, they took legislative action so as to have better control on illegal weapons selling and take care of people with mental illness. Secondly, they launched campaigns against violence. And finally, they increased security measures for politicians. But as we could see with Mr. Trump, these measures aren't bulletproof.

Political violence *is* a tradition in the US. And unfortunately, there's no reason why it should come to an end.



The end of the U.S.?

Opinion

With the arrival of Donald J. Trump at the head of the U.S. government, the world safety is in danger. Here's why.

Numerous celebrities brought their support to Kamala Harris to help her win the election, but that wasn't enough to make her president of the USA.

Europeans have bad memories of Donald Trump's first term, and rightly so. Trump is a dangerous populist who feeds off people's fears. He wants to finish the wall on the border with Mexico, but why? Is he afraid of more immigrants coming to - and that's a quote - "*eat the cats and the dogs*" of the good American people?

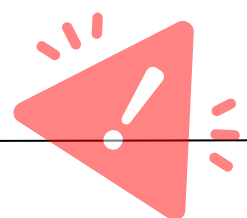
With the Supreme Court behind him, Donald Trump will be able to take even more radical measures during his second term. I can understand the choice of Americans who voted for Donald Trump, because he is an isolationist whose only motto is "*America first*". I can understand how he was a reassuring choice in this world full of problems with the economy (even though I don't think Trump is the best person to fix the US economy), wars... But I fear that, with him in charge, the world safety is in danger.

My biggest concern is with Ukraine. Donald Trump said that he "*will resolve the conflict in 24 hours.*" Only 24 hours, imagine that! While we are still waiting for his magical solution, I fear it might further endanger the entire world.



On the home front, he defends gun rights, even though he was the target of not one but *two* assassination attempts! One can wonder if he's completely crazy. Which is not a reassuring prospect given he runs the first world power!

"*Make America Great Again*", Trump said. In my opinion, these are only words. He's not going to do anything to solve existing problems. And that's the best case scenario... Maybe I worry about nothing, but I'm really afraid of the consequences of his win at a global level.



The election as seen by the artists

The 2024 election inspired artists in many different ways...

From advertising...

Kamala Harris and Donald Trump spent a lot on advertising, whether it was about making publicity for themselves or attacking their opponent's credibility. Trump had his "Next Step" ads, and Harris her "Fair Share" ads. These ads were focused on different issues: crime, economy, abortion rights, immigration and others.. During the month before the election, tens of millions of dollars had been spent by Kamala Harris, Donald Trump and their respective allies... All in all, political election advertising cost a staggering \$11 billion!



...to filmmaking...

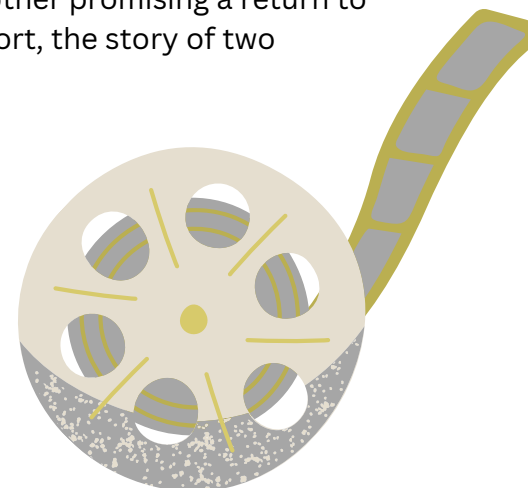


The Choice 2024 : Harris vs. Trump,
directed by Micheal Kirk

This documentary presents biographies of both major-party candidates. Michael Kirk and his team met those who know Harris and Trump best - friends, advisors and critics, as well as authors, journalists and political insiders - to present the life of both candidates.

The Choice 2024: Harris vs. Trump is the story about one who wants to move beyond the past and promising a greater future and the other promising a return to greatness. In short, the story of two fighters...

If you're curious, check out the trailer on Youtube;
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYP8STwpXoA>



... to art!

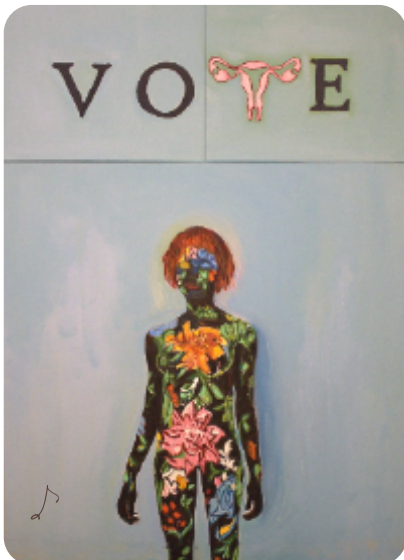
Founded in 1981, People For the American Way is a “national progressive advocacy organization that inspires and mobilizes Americans to defend freedom, justice, and democracy from those who threaten to take them away”, as they define themselves. A group of campaign artists - photographers, painters, oil painters, sculptors, choreographers, contemporary street artists, pop art artists, sound artists - using the power of art to get out the vote.

The progressive advocacy group is located in Washington, D.C.. One of their issues is “Artists for democracy”, which is about leveraging the power of art to inspire change”.

Here are some of the artists’ works! And now, it’s your turn to express your feelings about the election !



Susan Unterberg



Beverly McIver, *VOTE Black Beauty*, 2024



Victoria Cassinova, *My Choice*



Cleon Peterson, *Stop the Virus*, 2020



SCHOOL NEWS

Joséphine Baker, 1 year later



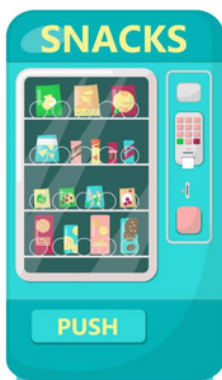
Josephine Baker is a very young school but a lot of things have changed in 1 year. Let's find out what!

First we can see that a lot of new books have appeared in the CDC! It may seem like small news, but we know that a lot of people love to read, and it used to be that the CDC didn't have a lot of books compared to now!



Now we have a climbing wall! Back then the climbing wall could not be used because of technical problems but now we can use it and a lot of classes will be able to climb the wall during PE classes. Hope they will like this experience!

New "jobs" have been added in the school. This year the students were able to become cultural ambassadors or health ambassadors. Thanks to the people who are part of those groups, the school will grow up!



Last but not least, a snacks vending machine has been set up in the hall, not far from the coffee machine. The students already love this machine, they love it so much that we have to fight to buy anything there!

Coming to America: the trip to Missouri



On October the 14th, the Premiere Euro students took a flight to the USA, and stayed in the state of Missouri, in the Midwest.

For 10 days, they have lived an amazing experience. We had a recap about this trip from students and teachers who went to Missouri!



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

The Jo Baker Times. So, during this amazing trip, what did you do?

Mrs Le Diagon. We tried baseball. I really appreciated it. We went to a football game. Obviously we visited a lot of museums, which was a big part of this trip. And we were supposed to go on a hike but we all know that, being in America, it meant walking for only 5 minutes (*laughs*).

The Jo Baker Times. What is your favorite memory from Missouri?

Mrs Le Diagon. My favorite memory was when I was without the students, haha! It was when I went to a hockey game during the week-end.

The Jo Baker Times. We heard that there was a plane problem, so what happened?

Mrs Le Diagon. Yes there was a plane problem, we had a canceled plane, and we had to wait so long for our first plane, about 3 hours I guess...

The Jo Baker Times. And if you had something to change, what would you change ?

Mrs Le Diagon. I would say the plane of course, but otherwise it was an amazing trip, we enjoyed it a lot and many students had never been to the U.S, so I think it was a perfect first time in America!

Coming to America: the trip to Missouri
(continued from page 19)

EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW
Part II



Jo Baker Times. Had you ever been to U.S before ?

Ashley. No, that was my first time there.

Jo Baker Times. What's the activity that you enjoyed the most?

Ashley. I think, it was the baseball session! That was really fun, and it was my first time trying that sport, so I really enjoyed it! Also, the baseball player who introduced us to this sport was very nice! I also loved World of Fun, the roller coaster park.

Jo Baker Times. Did you like your host family and Americans in general?

Ashley. My host family was AMAZING! They were so nice to me, and Americans are relaxed and social. Everyone was very kind!

Jo Baker Times. To conclude, what's your favorite memory?

Ashley. I think it was the first campfire we had. I really loved that moment, we played Hide and Seek as if we were 10 year-olds. Also, sleeping in the airport was really memorable, it made the trip different and unique!





Go Green!



What is it to be an éco-délégué?



Éco-délégués are a group of Josephine Baker high school students who are elected by their class and have an important mission: raise awareness among their classmates about sustainable development.

They use the 17 sustainable development goals created by United Nations in order to make the future better. Those goals embrace many different topics: ecology (n° 13,14,15), poverty (n°1), education (n°4) and others.

Projects

They carry out many projects with Mrs. Vallet and Mr. Da Costa: creating a vegetable garden, rubbish reducing in the canteen, water saving... And others are coming!

How about becoming an éco-délégué next year?



Punching bullying in the nose

In order to find out about what can be done in case of bullying, whether you're a victim or a witness, we decided to interview Mrs. Mena Morales, the dean of students at Josephine Baker high school.

The Jo Baker Times. If you're harassed at school, what do you have to do?

Mrs. Mena Morales. If you are being harassed, the FIRST thing you should do is contact the flagship ambassadors or adults.

They will encourage you to speak out. The first step is to talk to a harassment advisor, such as an adult or an ambassador. When the alarm is raised, we meet the victim, witness, and aggressor separately. Our goal is to leave a trace and play on empathy. If the aggressors continue, we will file a complaint.



Many actions are taken against bullying at Josephine Baker high school. The 7th of November is the national day against school bullying. On that occasion, all students were asked to wear blue clothes to show their support for the cause. Additionally, a "harcélomètre" was set up to find out if you're being harassed, because sometimes it's not so clear-cut.

Last but not least, if you are cyberbullied, here are some steps you can take:

- Call special number 3018 for every type of bullying
- Speak with your parents
- Block the people on your social networks
- Go file a complaint



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It's the holiday season!



Here at Jo Baker High School, we take Christmas time seriously! The whole teaching team gave us different activities to do during the Advent season such as a hide and seek game with a mischievous elf, or a concert by students. We also have decorations and two Christmas trees!

If you are interested in the hide and seek with the elf, then you must understand the concept! The elf is actually a spy sent by Santa Claus. His goal is to keep an eye on you during the day but at night... He might cause a lot of trouble, and your role is to find him in the morning to win a token! In addition, the high school used Christmas carols such as *Jingle Bells* as the bell.

Last but not least, there was a special meal for Christmas, with a lot of choices including salmon and foie gras.

Are you grateful? Then Thanksgiving is your holiday!

In 1621, the Plymouth colonist from England and the Native American people shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies.

Now, Americans use Thanksgiving as a way to express what they are grateful for.

Here at Jo Baker, there was a “thankful tree” where you could write a note saying what you’re thankful for! Just like for Christmas, there was a special meal at the cafeteria with turkey, some soup, sweet potatoe fries and a pumpkin pie.



India: such a great place!

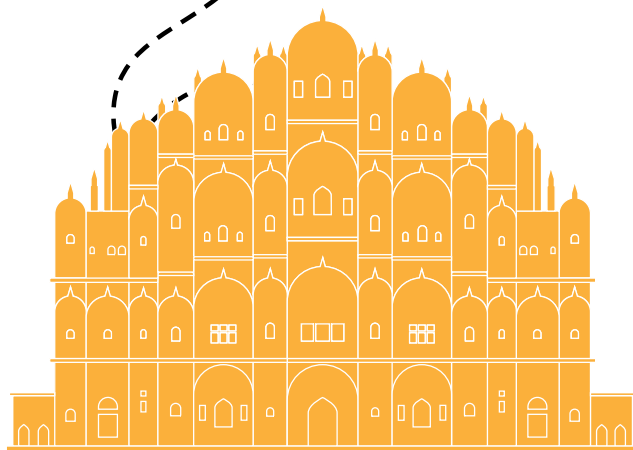
It's official, people: the Euro section and AMC (Anglais Monde Contemporain) senior year students will go to India!

Thanks to a parent, senior years students will meet their pen pals between March and April in Jaipur. A truly immersive experience as they will be staying in host families - later on, it will be the Indian students' turn to come to France in early May. While in India they will be able to discover Indian culture, visit Taj Mahal, and have fun with their host families during the week-end.



Fancy an Indian dinner? Save the date!

This amazing trip costs €1400. In order to reduce the price, students have already organized actions: a raffle, collecting donations... If you want to participate, you can endorse this trip and make a reservation for an Indian dinner in high school on Friday, February the 7th at 7:30pm. So save the date! But maybe you've already endorsed them at the Christmas concert, on December the 20th? The best singers and musicians of the school were there! I hope you were too...





LET'S TALK ABOUT... **! Clubs !**



There are lots of clubs at the school. Here's an overview.



Have you ever wished to participate in a play?

Well say no more: introducing the Drama Club! Here you can **act, improvise** and **play characters** to your heart's content. You do have to learn a bit of text, though..

"I feel that this club is a good way to build a play collectively and work on ourselves and our relationships between peers. It allows us to break our mental limits and freely express them" - Léna



Cinema

Wanna watch a movie?

There's a new movie being screened every Tuesday and Friday. You can watch it in the auditorium room, and later discuss what you saw! Awesome right? Happens at lunchtime from 12pm to 1:45pm.

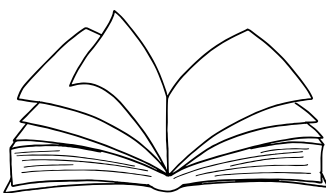
"It's great, you get to watch movies in their original versions, and then debate them for 15 minutes" - Solène



Smile and take a picture for our yearbook!



In this club, we record events that happen over the year to finally put it all in a big photo album that you can buy! For the memories!



What would your yearbook quote be?



Let's sing! Perhaps create a melody

Ever wanted to just rock out? You can! Here at Jo Baker, there is a special room full of musical instruments, but you can also play the piano in the main building if you feel like it. Musical talent is quite highlighted... Give it a try, you might be a natural. If you're down for it, you can also sing!



! Clubs 2! (continued from page 25)



Let's speak English!

"I feel like doing some activities... But what?"

The Rainbow Space

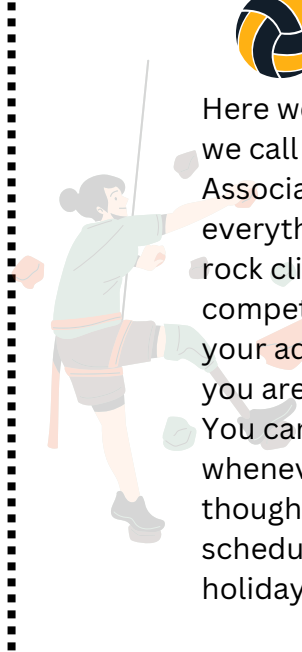
Have you ever wanted to have idle chat in English? Or perhaps you're interested in English culture and traditions, or making poems with magnetic words, or play a board game? Here you can do it all! It's OUR space, a comfort bubble nestled in the main building, on the upper floor. We doubt you'll find something like that anywhere else. Do come by, there are comfy sofas!



ENGLISH



Here we are lucky to have what we call A.S., short for Sports Association. You can do everything from dancing to rock climbing. If you have a competitive spirit, use it to your advantage. Especially if you are athletic. You can sign up, and join whenever you are free at noon, though keep up with the schedule, it changes every holiday.



Board Games



Do you feel like playing? A board game sounds like a good pastime, don't you think?

Every day, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, you can come by at lunchtime and play cards, chess, or discover board games that you might enjoy, from strategy to a fun time. Give it a try! The club is located down the corridor in the main building, in the study hall.



Jo Baker's Top Gun

The BIA (Certificate of Introduction to Aeronautics) is one of Josephine Baker high school's activities. But what does it consist of exactly?

The BIA is a French diploma that provides basic knowledge of the world of aeronautics. It is available from the age of 13 and is often the first diploma in the aeronautical sector. It's an introduction to aeronautics. With the BIA, you learn about different fields such as meteorology, history, safety and aircraft vocabulary.



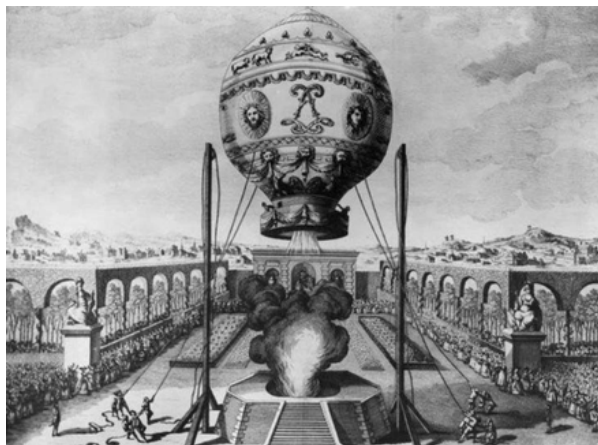
Here's an exclusive interview with Mr. Renan, a BIA student.

Jo Baker Times. Why did you enroll in the BIA course?

Mr. Renan. I'd like to join the air force or the Naval Aviation sector, so I think the BIA is a good introduction to aeronautics.

What do you learn there?

We learn about different things like aircraft vocabulary, what the different instruments are used for.



But what do you learn exactly?

So, we have different subjects like meteorology, history, safety and vocabulary of aircraft.

In history, we learnt that in the 18th century, two schools were formed: one said that you need to be lighter than air to fly, and the other said that you could fly like a bird by leaning on the air. We learn that airplanes developed enormously during the 1st World War and especially during the 2nd World War.

In meteorology we saw that there are several layers in the atmosphere.

We learn a lot of vocabulary.

In safety we learn about the history of aircraft safety.



CULTURE



*Bye Mrs Maggie Smith
1934/2024*

“Speak your mind even if your voice shakes”



In the afternoon of September the 27th of 2024, one of Britain’s greatest actresses, Dame Maggie Smith, died



On that day, millions of people were saddened by the death of Maggie Smith, three months before her 90th birthday. She died peacefully at the London’s Chelsea and Westminster hospital after having fought against breast cancer in 2007 and Basedow’s disease in 2019. It’s her children who had announced her death in a press release. There were lots of tributes to her. For instance the Tower Bridge was dressed in purple after her character in the *Downton Abbey* TV series. Over the course of time, she had become one of the most well known and best actresses in the world, which enabled her to win a lot of awards including 2 Oscars, 2 Golden Globes, 4 BAFTAs and 2 Emmy Awards for her roles in *California Suite*, *Downton Abbey* or even *The Orchard House*.

The trio is reunited

After the passing of Michael Gambon as Albus Dumbledore on 9/27/2023 and Alan Rickman as Severus Snape on 01/14/2016, the three highest-ranking wizarding teachers are now reunited in the afterlife. They'll also join Robbie Coltrane as Hagrid, Helen McCrory as Narcissa, and John Hurt as Ollivander. After the announcement of her death, fans of teacher Minerva McGonagall have come together to pay a final tribute to the actress: everybody raised their wands to the sky in front of the Hogwarts castle in the Universal park in Florida. It's a symbolic gesture from the saga, used to honour the departed. Daniel Radcliffe, who plays Harry in the saga, said on his Instagram: “*She was a fierce intellect, a gloriously sharp tongue, could intimidate and charm in the same instant and was, as everyone will tell you, extremely funny... I will always consider myself amazingly lucky to have been able to work with her, and to spend time around her on set. The word legend is overused, but if it applies to anyone in our industry, then it applies to her. Thank you, Maggie.*”





Can the Simpsons really tell the future?



***The Simpsons* cartoon is famous for its many predictions, but have they all come true?**

Since 1989, more than 700 episodes of *The Simpsons* have aired on TV. Most of the time, they talk about politics and social subjects with humour. In some chapters, there are strange “precognitions”. Most of them are fake, but sometimes they are eerily real.

One of the most famous *Simpsons*’ predictions is the 11/09/2001 attacks in *The City of New York vs. Homer Simpson* (1997). In that episode, Homer Simpson sees a 100-dollar note with the image of New York’s twin towers and the number “9/11”. We can see this in the newspaper too. This isn’t a direct prediction of the September 11 events but the visual seemed surprisingly close to the attack that would take place 4 years after the episode aired. There are a lot of troubling details and in this case, we can talk about a “real prediction”.

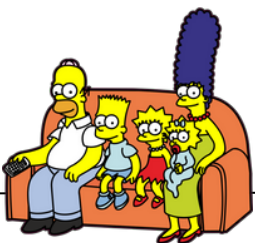


A fake prophecy

In another episode, a flu called “The Osaka Flu” (1993) spreads through Springfield, and causes widespread panic in the city. The virus comes from a package from Japan, and the



authorities try to stop the epidemic. On the TV news, at the bottom of the screen, we can see a text where it says “Corona Virus” but the context and the details are different. During the pandemic in 2020, people thought this was an incredible premonition but the text is fake and it was added after the airing of the episode and after the Coronavirus appeared. It’s a montage.





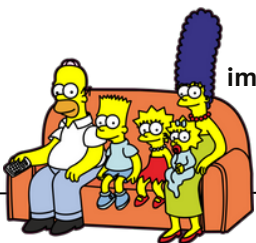
Can the Simpsons really tell the future? (continued from page 30)



One of the most famous examples is in *Bart To The Future* in 2000. In that episode, Lisa Simpson refers to Donald Trump as her predecessor and says: “As you know, we’ve inherited quite a budget crunch from president Trump.” That episode was a political satire, however, 16 year later, Trump was elected and became president. That didn’t come totally out of the blue, though, because at the time, Trump was already famous as a businessman in the USA.



As far as we know, some of the “*Simpsons*’ predictions” have actually come true. However some of them are a bit far-fetched and are straight out of people’s imagination or are entirely made-up. But we still can be impressed by coincidences or real-world events that the series seems to have anticipated.





The '90s-2000s revival



We've seen it in the latest fashion weeks, trends and playlists: the 90s-2000s are back. Why? Where? Let's see...

Y2K* fashion dominates the runways. From the faux fur coats to the cat-eye sunglasses, the bold and playful style of the Y2K era is back, with its mix of glam and streetwear elements making a great comeback on today's runways.

Trends often return in 20 or 30-year cycles, and social media like TikTok or Instagram introduced our generation to the old fashion trends.

Moreover, luxury brands like Diesel, Isabel Marrant and even Versace reimagined their looks by adding some '90s and 2000s elements like low-rise jeans and metallic fabrics. Even VOGUE validated these trends, and, as they say in the fashion world, "If it's in VOGUE, it's in fashion."



Blumarine Spring-Summer 2023

*Y2K= Year 2000



From Nirvana to the Spice Girls

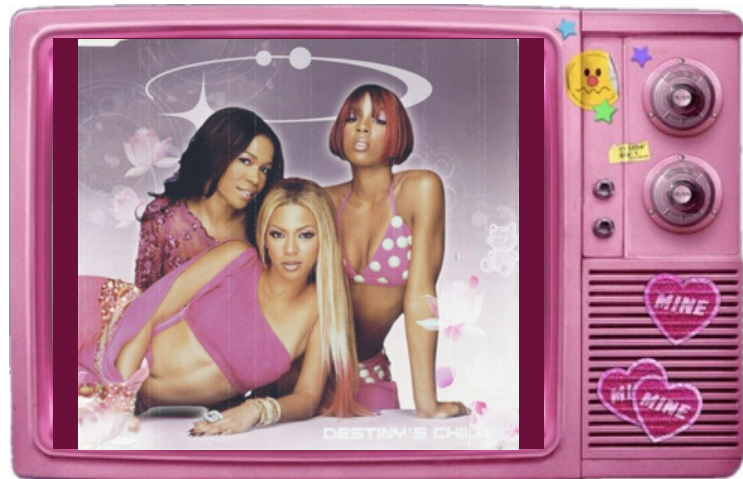
CD, tapes, MP3... From Britney Spears to Nirvana, the '90s were the golden age of musical transition with the hip hop, R & B, electro and grunge phenomenons. Artists like Daft Punk, Oasis or Beyoncé became true icons by making global hits and breaking new ground, both technologically and creatively. Boys and Girls bands such as The Backstreet Boys and the Spice Girls, were also a big part of this worldwide phenomena with their huge fandoms. But why such a comeback nowadays?



The '90s-2000s revival (continued from page 32)



Nostalgia is the first thing that comes to mind. The '90s have left their mark on millions of youngsters that are now adults in search of a connection with their past. Music brings back deep memories like first loves, parties with friends, holidays but also every emotion felt at the time. Apps and streaming platforms like Spotify, YouTube and Tiktok have relaunched hits like *Genie In The Bottle* by Christina Aguilera, *The Real Slim Shady* by Eminem or *The Boy Is Mine* by Brandy, and inspired new viral songs and dance trends. Even in some music videos, movies, commercials or series like *F.R.I.E.N.D.S.* we can find once more the visual style of this period and hear some hits that were omnipresent and unmissable in charts. Famous artists like to pay tribute to their predecessors by doing some collaborations with them or covers of their biggest hits.



The '90-2000s have had a huge impact on our culture. Whether it's the return of iconic fashion staples or the revival of genres like punk-pop, R&B, or electronic music, the influence of these years is undeniable. The power of social media and streaming platforms played a large part in this cultural revival of the '90s and 2000s by revisiting old sounds and styles. It's about reimagining the past to create something new. Whether on the runway, in the club, or on your playlist, the 90s-2000s are here to stay.



Netflix 'n' chill!



The top 4 Christmas movies!

best comedy
for little ones!

Home Alone

The McCallister family decided to go on vacation in Paris during the Christmas break. The morning of their trip, the whole family woke up late and got in a rush to get ready. Finally they arrived at the airport and boarded their airplane, relief washing over them for arriving in time. But little did they know they forgot one of their kids at home...



directed by
John Hughes (1990)



directed by
John Whitesell (2020)

Holidate

Sloane and Jackson both hate big holiday events. They meet on a Christmas Day and make a pact to keep each other company on each following holiday. With no second thoughts, they make a great team for a lot of laughs. However, Sloane and Jackson realise that sharing what they both hate can awake other feelings...

don't forget to watch
this with your partner!

The Grinch

Every Christmas, the Whos disturb the Grinch's peace by celebrating this holiday with more lighting, music and decorations but when the Whos declare that this year they will celebrate Christmas even louder, the Grinch can think of only one way to bring back peace: he needs to steal Christmas.



directed by Scott Mosier
(2018)

to spend a good time
with your family!



directed by Ernst Lubitsch
(1940)

Rendez-vous

In a tiny shop in Budapest, two employees who could barely stand each other learnt that they fell in love without even knowing it by sending anonymous love letters...

old but not odd!



NEXT FILM

LIFESTYLE



Students burnout, a growing epidemic



Academic pressure is now weighing on teenagers' mental health

“What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals”, American philosopher David Thoreau once said, meaning the real reward of achieving a goal is what you have learned. Every success, big or small, brings a new experience into the person you are. But it seems we’ve been losing sight of that, as of late.

Too often, academic pressure is caused by the people who love us the most: our parents. But it can also come from competition with other students, self-imposed expectations, but also a lack of time.

Unknowingly, many parents set high expectations for their children’s academic achievements (grades). For them, a child who thrives at school will be successful later in life, but... this isn’t always the case.

Parents may have the best intentions, but overinflated expectations can create stress for us students.



Stress, exhaustion and low self-esteem

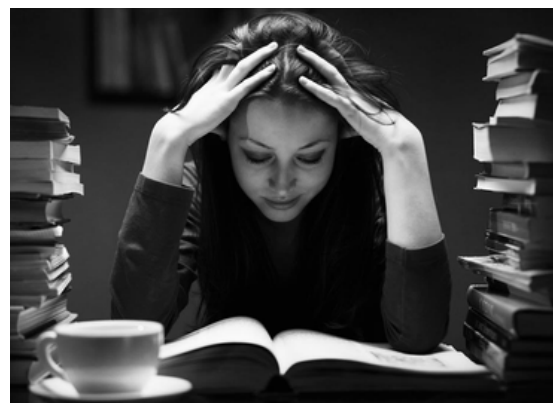
The competition with fellow students is also a source of pressure because students often feel the need to feel somehow “better” than everyone but also because they need to actually be better to reach their goals, such as getting a scholarship or land a spot at the university. In the U.S., prestigious Ivy league universities like such as Harvard, Stanford or Princeton are so hard to get in it can create a lot of stress on students who want to get in.

The consequences are numerous, the first one being stress and worry. Students worry all the time about keeping good grades.

There can be sadness, too: when students are afraid of failing and are always trying to be successful, they can feel overwhelmed.

Or tired. Long hours of learning and a lot of homework can leave us physically and mentally exhausted.

Not to mention consequences such as a low self-esteem, or isolation.



The Christmas season is here!

As the days grow colder and the snow begins to fall, there's nothing better than getting cosy under a blanket and making hot snacks. We hope that in our recipes you will find some comfort and love to share

Walnut cake



Ingredients:

- 60 g hazelnuts
- 60 g walnuts
- 125 g butter
- 125 g sugar
- 2 eggs
- 100 g flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 60 ml milk

Instructions:

1. Pre-heat your oven to 180 degrees Celsius. Grease the cake pan with butter or use parchment paper for easy removal.
2. In a bowl, mix the butter and sugar. Add the eggs one by one, stirring well after each egg.
3. In a separate bowl, mix the flour, hazelnuts, walnuts and baking powder.
4. Gradually add the dry ingredients to the butter-sugar mixture, alternating with the milk. Stir well until the batter is smooth. Finally, add vanilla extract and mix again.
5. Pour the batter into the prepared cake pan.
6. Bake the cake for about 25-30 minutes, or until it is golden brown and a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.
7. Allow the cake to cool in the pan for about 10 minutes before transferring it to a dish to cool completely.
8. Once the cake has cooled, dust it with powdered sugar !





The Christmas tree



Ingredients:

- 2 puff pastry sheets
- chocolate spread
- egg yolk

Instructions:

1. Spread the chocolate spread over one of the puff pastry sheets
2. Lay over another sheet of puff pastry
3. Cut a simple tree shape
4. Remove the excess
5. Cut strips down each side
6. Twist each branch
7. Brush with egg wash
8. Bake: 180°C for 20 min



Ginger bread



Ingredients:

- 100 g sugar
- 250 g flour
- 10 cl milk
- 1 packet of yeast
- 2 eggs
- 250 g honey
- 1 sachet vanilla sugar
- 1 teaspoon ginger powder
- 1 teaspoon of nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon green anise
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon powder
- 1 teaspoon of 4 spices mix

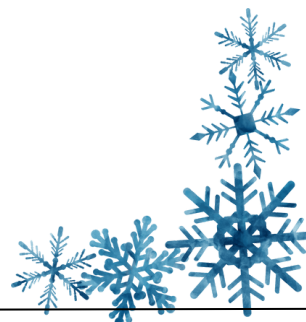


Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 160°C
2. Heat the honey (pan or microwave)
3. Mix the flour with both sugars, yeast and spices
4. Add the honey and mix with the rest
5. Slowly add the eggs and lukewarm milk
6. Pour the mixture into a buttered mould
7. Bake for 1h - 1h15
8. Remove from the oven when it has cooled
9. Wait 24 hours before eating



Enjoy your meal!



Hot chocolate's secret story



It's common that when someone tells you "Hot chocolate" or "winter", a 'living-room with a little fire and you on the couch with a sweet blanket, a book and a mug' image is one of the first things that come to your mind. But hot chocolate wasn't always what we know today. Often seen as a cozy winter drink, especially during the holiday season, it has a fascinating history that links to both ancient traditions and the spirit of X-mas.

Hot chocolate's origins go back to the ancient Mayans and Aztecs civilizations, as they made a spicy drink from cacao, water, and spices. When European explorers arrived in America, they discovered the drink and brought cacao back to Spain, where sugar and cinnamon were added to create a sweeter version. This new hot chocolate recipe quickly became a luxury beverage in Europe.

In the 17th century, hot chocolate became popular in Europe, especially in France and England, where it was served in exclusive "chocolate houses" that resembled today's cafés. It became a must for intellectual discussion, where people would debate philosophy, politics and literature over a cup of hot chocolate.



More than just a drink: a symbol of warmth and family.

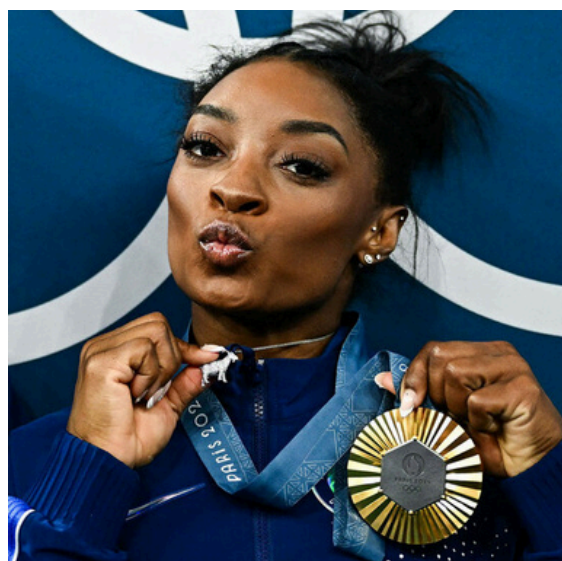
Now, hot chocolate is a beloved part of X-mas celebrations, often featured in holiday commercials, gatherings, and movies. The image of a mug topped with whipped cream or marshmallows symbolizes warmth and comfort, embodying the X-mas spirit.

In many homes, making hot chocolate has become a family tradition during X-mas . Whether using a simple or an elaborate homemade recipe, families get together to prepare the drink and share special moments. This ritual has evolved, creating lasting family memories during the holiday season.

SPORTS

Has Simone Biles really retired from gymnastics?

Having previously won 7 Olympic medals, she gave an amazing performance at the Paris 2024 Olympics games with 4 more medals to her credit (3 gold ones and a silver one). What a comeback after the disastrous Tokyo 2020 Olympic games where she experienced a burnout! She had to quit competing because of her mental health and her mental blocks which affected her performance at the Tokyo games. Though widely considered the greatest gymnast of all time, Simone Biles had to face her fear in gymnastics but also in life as she experienced depression for almost 2 years before making her comeback in 2024.



"I'm just trying to be myself and not let the pressure get to me."



Her documentary *Simone Biles Rising*, which focuses on the Olympic year of the gymnastics queen and her comeback in international gymnastics, is available on Netflix, and has been greatly popular since it was released. At the end, we learn that Simone Biles planned to quit international competitions after the Paris Olympics. But who knows? Maybe she'll make yet another comeback at the L.A. 2028 Olympics!

Has Simone Biles really retired from gymnastics? (continued from page 39)



Let's flashback. Simone Biles did not have an easy life, which makes her career even more impressive.

She was only six years old when she visited a gymnasium. Coaches recognized her potential, and by the age of eight, she was training seriously in the sport. Biles had a difficult childhood. During a big part of it, she lived with her grandparents and her siblings due to her parents' struggle with substance abuse.

She made a name for herself during the 2016 Rio Olympics, where she made history by winning four gold medals and one bronze. Her amazing floor routines and gravity-defying vaults made the world pay attention.

Over the years, Biles has accumulated an incredible 25 World Championship medals, including 19 gold ones, making her the most decorated gymnast in World Championship history.

Mental blocks

Simone Biles' 2021 experience was an important moment in her career and for the issue of mental health in sports. Her decision to step back from the Olympics was not a sign of weakness but an example of strength and self-awareness. She began having "twisties" which is a phenomenon where gymnasts lose their spatial awareness. Plus, she went through a horrible experience with Dr. Larry Nassar, who sexually assaulted her. She spoke out about what happened to her and other gymnasts at the club, and obtained justice for herself. Thanks to her commitment, she showed the world that *"it's okay to not be okay"*, and that taking care of our mental health is just as important as physical performance.



A well-deserved retirement.

Simone Biles gave us unforgettable memories in sport history.

No matter what the future holds for her, her name will be known for a long time due to her trademark moves called "Biles". She clearly deserved her title as "the greatest gymnast of all time". And now it's time for another star to shine.



The next Olympic Games



LA 2028



The future Olympics will be held in United States, in the city of Los Angeles, July 14-30 of 2028. That's about 1300 days away, which may seem like a long time. But hosting the games entails a lot of preparations, especially after the raging fires that destroyed entire portions of the city.

New sports in 2028

With each new session of the Olympic games, new sporting disciplines are added. For example, for the 2024 Olympics, these sports were added: break-dancing, sport climbing, skateboarding, surfing...

For the 2028 edition, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) approved 5 new sports that will be in competition:

- Baseball/Softball
- Cricket
- Flag Football (a simplified version of American football)
- Lacrosse
- Squash

Will it be to easy to do better than Paris 2024?

The 2024 Olympic games in Paris were an amazing event in terms of politics, economy, and obviously sports. Thanks to the 2024 Olympics, France has buffed up its image in the world, especially during the Olympics opening ceremony where France showcased its culture and traditions. Regarding the economy, France has earned between 7 and 11 billions euros, with an investment of 2.6 billions euros. And that's just the beginning, as tourists will continue to flow for many years to come.

Doing better will prove a challenge for Los Angeles, especially after the devastation caused by the wildfires. But on the sports level, after its incredible performance during the Paris 2024 Olympics (79 medals!), the American team should shine bright again. Each session of the Olympic games is generally won by the American team, but as the next ones will take place at home, we can bet American athletes will be especially motivated!



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