

#### CANADA TRUCKER PROTESTS

Toronto has been dealing with truckers protesting Canada's Covid restrictions

...AND MORE INSIDE

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# Are we to expect an end to the pandemic? And what happens to the waste produced by it?

(Telegraph)

The World Health Organization has recently stated that the amount of waste produced by the pandemic is very detrimental to the environment. From the single-use masks, to needles, Antigen test equipment and other packaging used to protect the spread of the microbes, all the waste produced contributes greatly to the already problematic amounts of plastic pollution. The <u>71-page report</u>, which came out February 1st this year, states that most of the 1.5 billion medical items distributed by the UN in 2020 ended up as waste, with the weight of 262,000 jumbo jets. WHO suggests that health care workers can abandon the practice of wearing gloves while administering the vaccine, because gloves have been found to produce the most waste; and apparently are not necessary in the process. But not all hope is lost; in one Australian example. researchers used discarded face masks as material for road construction, and we must come up with more ways to up-cycle this waste.

As we all know, the coronavirus pandemic has been worsening over the past few weeks, especially with the Omicron variant. Last week alone, there were 12 million new reported cases across Europe. Despite all of this, there is some hope for this situation. Due to the major spread of the Omicron variant, which is much less severe, immunity has risen. This along with higher numbers of vaccinated people has also led to the rate of Covid hospitalization to decrease. As a result of all World Health these factors. the Organization predicts that Europe can expect a "ceasefire" to this pandemic in the spring. Until then, it is best if we respect the Covid guidelines and stay safe.

If you want to check out a more detailed version of this story, be sure to check out: https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-60245273

Written By
ALISA KROTOV

Written By ELISKA BELCIKOVA



### The ISP Happy Caravan club is throwing an upcoming, very much anticipated, Crafty Caravan day!

The HC club works with the Happy Caravan organization, an NGO based in Greece with the goal of setting up informal classrooms in refugee camps, teaching English, math, and art to children with little to no access to education. Crafty Caravan day will be held as a fundraiser to help raise money that will later be donated and used to buy school supplies.

The event will take place on the 17th of February from 15:45 to 17:00 after school in the Idea Lab, so make sure you save the date! It is open to elementary all the way up to upper school students, and we will have a range of activities in store. And remember to bring your own clothes, because we believe in sustainability and you'll have the special opportunity to design a Happy Caravan inspired item of clothing completely unique to you! There will be three types of tickets available, each providing different benefits:

- 1.200, czk Stencil for spray painting and fabric markers available for use.
- 2.280,- czk Same activities as Ticket 1 plus pins and magnets.
- 3.350, czk Same activities as Ticket 1 plus patches.

In case you can't make it (we'll miss you!), there'll also be a donation box at the same location, so make sure you stop by and show your support. We can't wait to see you there!

#### THE TWO TYPES



Illustrated By
ALISA KROTOV



HIV is a serious virus that attacks your immune system. The virus can stay latent between 8-10 years, before progressing into AIDS which is the complete failure of the immune response. Unfortunately HIV is a permanent disease, yet it can be controlled, by the correct use of medication. A new mutation of HIV, called VB, has been discovered by researchers in the Netherlands. They say it was supposedly circulating for some time now. This new variant boosts the number of viral particles in the blood (so it can be transmitted easier) and the risk of progressing into AIDS is now much faster. Researchers believe this isn't a huge concern, it is something that needs further research and closer attention, as treatment works for this variant as well.

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-00317-x

Written By
ANNA JANECKOVA

The capital of Canada, Ottawa, has been dealing with trucker protests against covid restrictions for over a week now. As a result of this, the mayor Jim Watson has declared a state emergency. Furthermore, he stated that the city was "losing this battle" and "completely out of control". The "Freedom convoy" is at the root of the protests, being created in rebellion against a new rule revolving around mandatory vaccination for all truckers that cross the US-Canada border. However, unfortunately, the protests have transformed into a much broader issue for Canada. The protesters have begun gathering near Parliament Hill in central Ottawa, demanding to end all vaccine mandates across the country, thus opposing the government of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. As well as this, many are concerned about the rise of far-right and extremist elements, with the police dealing with more than 60 criminal investigations on Sunday. There have been sightings of racist signs and people being harassed for wearing masks.

https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-60281088

Written By
ANNA BELCIKOVA

# Eileen Gu wins gold for China at the Olympics (Npr)

Eileen Gu, an 18 year old skiing phenomenon, won her first gold at the Beijing Olympics this year. She scored a 94.5 in the freestyle big air competition, landing her in the top position for this category. This win resulted in the Chinese media crashing as millions of fans went online to celebrate, naming her their "snow princess". However, there is lots of controversy concerning her representation of China. Gu is an American-born athlete, having learnt to ski on the Californian slopes of Lake Tahoe. Initially, Ms Gu started her competitive skiing career as an American, but she soon switched her affiliation and decided to represent China. Because of this, many have even gone as far as questioning her identity. She responded to these concerns by saying that she just wanted "the opportunity to help inspire millions of young people during the Winter Olympics in Beijing - my mother's birthplace". Despite all of this, it is clear that Ms Gu is a gifted skier and will have a bright future in the Olympic world.

If you want to read more about this story, feel free to check out: https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-60277353,https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/beijing-winter-olympics-02-08-22-spt/index.html

Written By

**ELISKA BELCIKOVA** 

Look out for next week's issue as it will be an Olympics special!!



#### Pet Appreciation



NAME: RIO
ANIMAL: PARROT
OWNER: ACE CUSUMANO

FUN FACT: "HE IS A RESCUE
BIRD FROM POOR
CONDITIONS OF CAPTIVITY
AND IS NOW LIVING HIS
BEST LIFE. HE CAN SPEAK
AS WELL AS SLIDE DOWN A
BAR LIKE A LITTLE
FIREMAN:)"

FAVORITE TREAT: APPLES
AND PEAS

SEND AN EMAIL IN THE CONTACT BELOW WITH YOUR PETS SO WE CAN APPRECIATE THEM!

## **About Us**

ISPrint is a student-led newsletter which brings to you the best and latest of school happenings, local news, and world events— all in bitesize reports and easy-to-read segments. With motivated student-journalists and editors from 6 countries, we strive to provide coverage as diverse as the team that puts it together. In doing so, we hope to promote global awareness, intercultural understanding, and engagement in the school community.

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