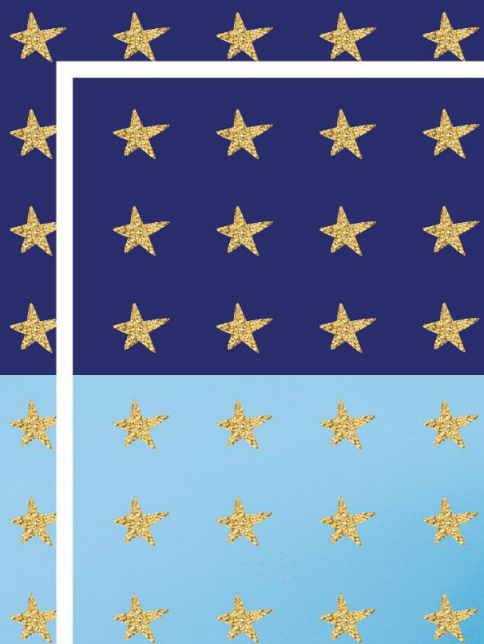


HUMANS OF BFS



Busan Foreign School





Anastasia Korniyukhina

Interview by Sunny Kim (Grade 12)

I like photography. When I look at something, I can see the picture even before I take it. If the [subject] looks beautiful and has composition, I need to take a picture of it.

That's how I started photography four years ago. Though it was frustrating at first because I didn't know how to control the lighting and the color, but after time, I learned and it got easier.

I like doing it because you catch one moment and you can go back to it. For example, you can take a photo of somebody you love and then they pass away and you still have a memory of them.

For me, my favorite photograph was a sunset. The sky goes from dark blue to red and there is a bright star. I like this picture because I feel free, in that I can do anything I want. There's nothing stopping me.

For beginners, I would tell them to just do it and see what happens. Try again. It will get better.



Ricardo Rusca

Interview by Annika Kim (Grade 9)

Moving to Korea was stressful for me because, well, you know, leaving my friends, leaving my senior year, leaving basically - everything. Heck, even my mom is still in America. It's just hard, I guess. I had to leave everything behind, including my final high school year - which is where you just have fun. It doesn't really matter where I move, it's just the fact that I moved.

I honestly don't have problem with Korea, it's all good. What caused this stress is just the fact that everything I knew is gone, everything I was familiar with is gone. I had to move here because of my dad working with Samsung, and he brought me because.. Well it was kind of a "punishment", since I was a 'bad' student. Whatever, it's just stressful.

Getting rid of this stress? How to get rid of this stress? I honestly don't know. Just man up? Just man up I guess, go with the flow. I think I should just deal with it, since I'm moving back home in December anyway. Yet on the other hand, I really think I learned from this experience as well. I learned that well, my parents have more control over me than I thought. To be positive, I did meet a few new people; new friends, new teachers, etc. One thing that definitely changed is the atmosphere. There's less bad influences, and I guess I'll learn to grow from this place as well....



Eunsaem Park

Interview by Kale Barrer (Grade 10)

Books inspire me. I read fiction which, as you know, doesn't happen in real life, but it inspires me to test my limits and think about what I can really do as a person.

What inhibits me from thinking about this are boring classes. Though some of my classes are fun, most can be filled with lectures and slides.

Through this, I have one person. My friend Annika is a light in these dark classes. I've known her since 6th grade. There's a lot I could say about her, but I'll focus on one point. It's the fact that she understands me and that I understand her.

She is the reason I got into fiction in the first place. She gave me all these ideas and deep explanations that made me think the way I do now.



Dan Shinn

Interview by Brian Cho (Grade 9)

I'd like to accomplish myself to be a chess grandmaster before I become an adult. I never thought about changing my dream. It is pretty hard work, I need to practice around seven hours a day.

Also, there are lots of thing that distracts me from doing the necessary practice. It has its disadvantages. Most of other adolescents that has same dreams like me practiced at least 9 years already, when I've only played for two.

Really, If it was possible I would change the time that I started to play chess. Even though I have disadvantages, I still kept on going towards my goal of becoming chess grandmaster because I defeated almost every high rank chess player in Korea.



Luke Seol

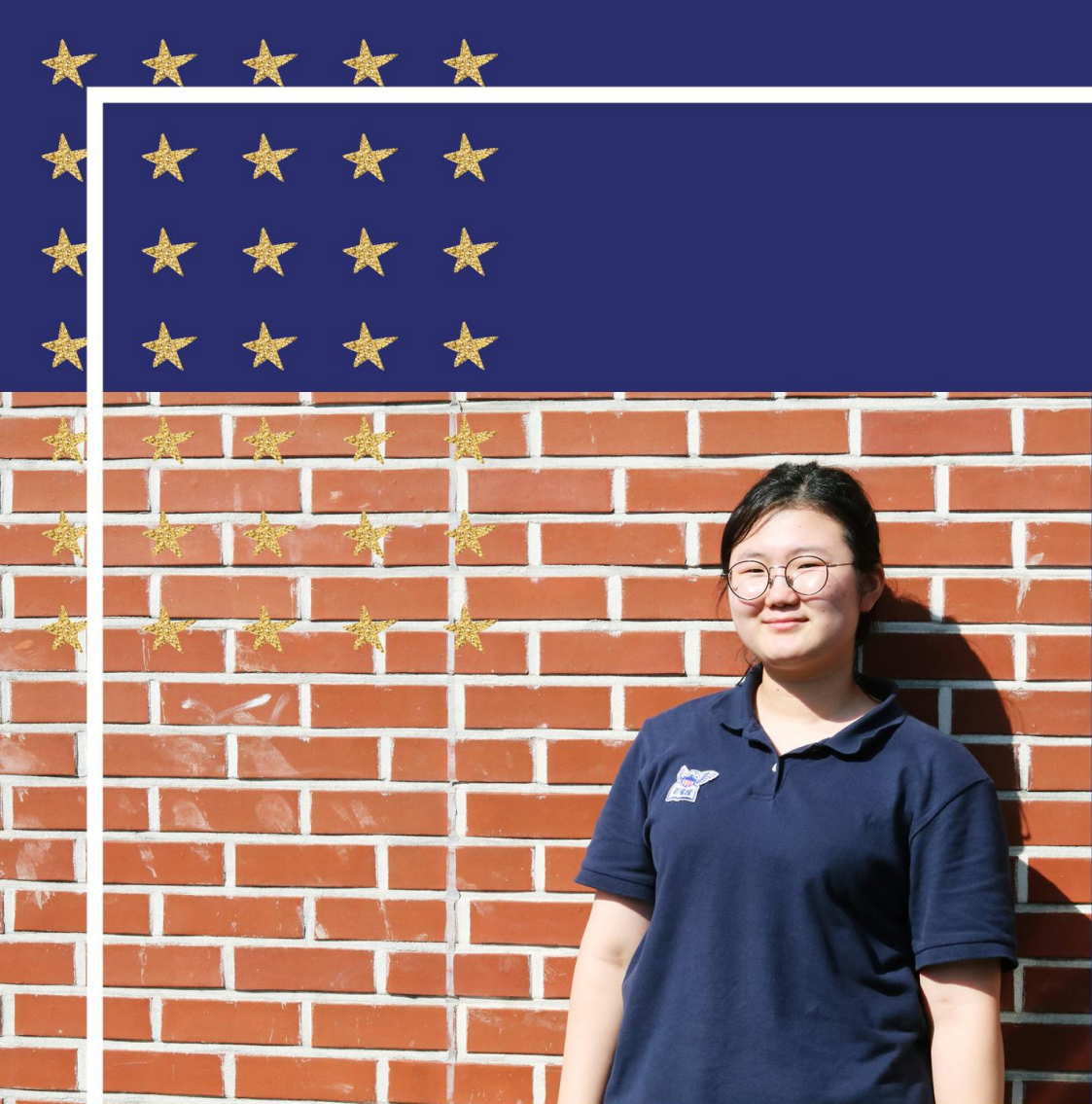
Interview by Edwards Doh (Grade 9)

If I see successful people like athletes, and I really want to become like them. Not looking up to them, but I want to become like those people. They inspire and motivate me in life. Like I'm a teenager that has to be an adult in a few years, so I have care about getting good grades and being responsible.

Even though in the future, I might not be successful as them I might be able to feel proud of myself. When you reach a certain age in your life, you want to become successful.

Two years ago, I started playing professional soccer, and that impacted me a lot. I'm a growing teenager and it's hard to keep yourselves motivated so if I see my grade falling or myself getting off track I start rethinking and take a breath.

Before I was inspired by athletes and success, I had nothing that motivated me. I was doing what I had to do. If there was an exam, I study. I didn't take life that seriously. But now I do.



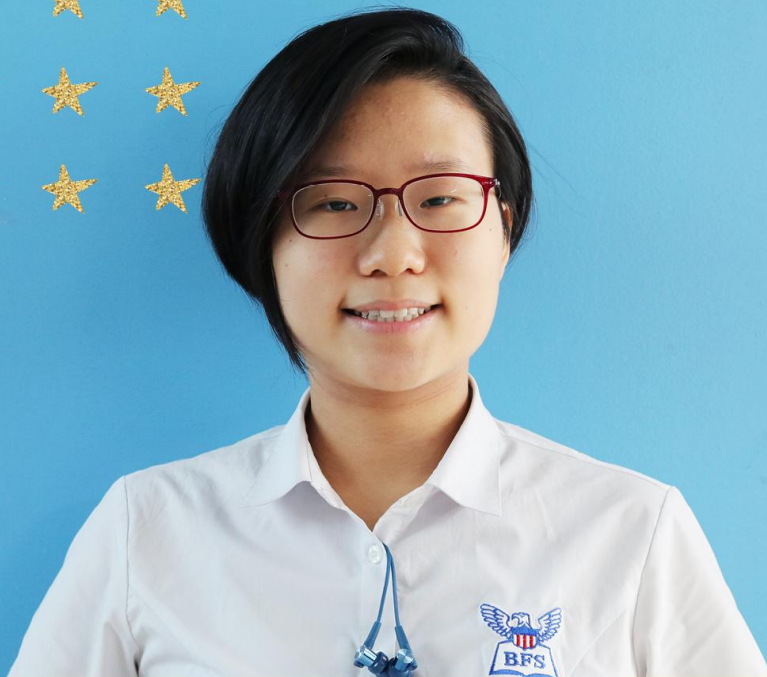
Jiwon Seo

Interview by Danil Galkin (Grade 9)

When I am in the bus coming to school or going home, I think about my life and sometimes it goes down very deep, I get sad really quickly or sometimes it's just very scary that you don't know what's going to happen in the future, so I would not recommend spending time alone because it doesn't make me happy.

Hanging out with my friends make me the happiest, when I am watching a movie with my family or by myself is also fun, just doing something that I like as mostly for everyone makes me feel really happy.

In the summer when I was hanging out with my friends, that I didn't see for a long time, when I visited Canada we talked about our lives and the things that I miss when I was in Canada, that was the time I felt the happiest.



Sunny
Kim

Interview by Anastasia Korniyukhina (Grade 10)

I would like to pursue a career in the medical field. Not as a scientist, but as a doctor who oversees her patients. My father is a doctor, and I saw the negative and the positive aspects of his career.

My dad did influence me to pursue this career, despite the fact that he would often come home late at night with dark circles under his eyes.

However, at the same time, I would also see him hugging a patient that had been cured of an illness. He is not the type of doctor that does it for money; he also cares about the patients and their health. So I want to become a person like him.

I am not quite sure if this career will make me happy. There were times when my father was very happy to be a doctor, but there are also times when he hated it. There were times when I hated that he was one. So, I guess I will have a hate and love relationship between the two. But I am hopeful that I will like it.



Ilya
Kim

Interview by Sharin Kim (Grade 9)

Well, if there was a place to go for peace and quiet, it would be the coffee shop. Even though it may be very crowded sometimes, I can bring some music devices and turn them on. The music would block the sounds around, and I will be able to enjoy my time relaxed.

Usually, when I am in my house, my parents will force me to clean my room or bother me with other things. However, when I am in the coffee shop, nobody is there to bother me. I especially enjoy the relaxing music that is being played and the nice view of the sea.



Rachel Jung

Interview by Siyun Kwoun (Grade 9)

My life changed since coming to BFS, because I started to give more effort to receive better grades. Also, new friends in BFS changed my life since now they are my closest friends, whom I tell my darkest secrets to. Also we are always there for each other if we ever have a problem in life.

After coming to this school, I realized that I needed to find the balance between friendship and grades in order to maintain both in a good way. I feel positive about the changes because those changes I mentioned made a better environment for me.



Sharin
Kim

Interview by Ilya Kim (Grade 12)

I was in the hospital and when my grandmother passed away I did not know she passed away.

I was eight or 9 years old when my father's mother passed away, and I miss her alot. I do not know why but I miss her the most because she was taking care of me and treated me well. I used to stick to her alot and fold some origami out of colored paper.

My family and I we visited her in Gyeongju on every holiday, back then my parents and I were living in Busan and could not visit her more often.

My favorite memory was my grandmother telling me old Korean folk stories, like Korean children's stories. I do not remember a lot about stories my grandma told me, back then so I do not have a favorite one.



Siyun
Kwoun

Interview by Rachel Jung (Grade 10)

Changing to BIFS was the scariest moment in my life because I was in Korean school for 7 years, so I didn't speak English for a long time, so I was scared about it. But now I'm not scared because I adapted to the environment.

Also, at that moment, I was nervous and scared, but my mom recommended me to go anyway. Now, If I was in that situation again I would go to that school because it was a new experience for me. I liked having different friends compared to just Korean friends.

After going to BIFS, I didn't tell anybody about this then, but as time passed, it's easier to talk about.



Albert Oh

Interview by Alex Lee (Grade 9)

Jonghyun, who I've known since I was 2. He's my friend that gives me motivation to get good grades and to endure through everything I have to go through, because if I, I can't do anything. I can't meet him or do anything I want even.

Mainly however, since he lives in Ulsan, I have to get good grades for my parents, so I can go there as it's a one-hour bus ride there. I have to finish all my homework, get my academy days that I'll miss all settled. Because my parent's won't let me go unless they know that I've settled everything here in Busan.

Jonghyun motivates/makes me get good grades so either he can come down or I can go visit him. Also, when I go there I like to go to the parks and go outside. As normally when I'm here in Busan, I stay at home all day, however when I go there I go explore the outside world. That I normally don't see nor experience in my everyday life.

It gives me a reason to endure everything and go work hard in my everyday life so I can make these memories which give me the hope and power to live on.



Brian Yang

Interview by Chiyeon Lee (Grade 9)

The most important person in my life is probably my mother as she cared for me when I was young and I did live with her alone without my father in America, so that's the reason why my mom is the most important person in my life.

She has helped me when I was young. She would remember whatever I said and do what I asked her to do. She said that she won't care as long as I try. My mother always wanted me to be honest and hardworking. I do know that I am being honest and try to be honest.

I do want to become like my mother in some parts, she is pretty short tempered, but other than that she is really nice and supportive. If there is a characteristic I want to take on, I guess it is her will or desire to help me do what I want or help me get what I want.



Anthony Crutcher

Interview by Minsung Kwon (Grade 10)

My mom is the most important person in my life. My mom influenced me by working for me while I was broke and by helping me stay in a shelter. My mom is important to me because she is my mom and she made my existence.

My mom always helps me, she helps me by feeding me when I am hungry, my hardest time is when I am hungry. My mom bakes cakes for her job and my dad is a director of a company. I got to know my mom better by living with her and also because I see her everyday. My mom is the most important person in my life.



Diego Diaz Ortiz

Interview by Jasmin Sloomweg (Grade 9)

When I grow up, I want to be in the NBA or on a Spanish Soccer team. I want to be on this team because my favorite soccer players are there, like Lionel Messi, or Cristiano Ronaldo. I want to see if I would be able to carry their numbers. I will reach this goal by practicing everyday. I will try my best to be the best player in middle school, high school, and maybe if I'm good enough, play for the college I go to.

I am already playing a lot of soccer with my parents and at school, but mostly with my dad because he helps me with my problems. My family is really supportive of me and I'm thankful. A lot of my friends are also helping me so that I can get better and achieve my goals.

I'm not expecting to achieve my goal in a few years. I know it will take a long time. Right now, my plan is to practice for twenty to thirty years. Following my dreams is what I am doing, and I hope others do, too.



Alex
Lee

Interview by Albert Oh (Grade 9)

My hobby is playing sports, any form of sports usually makes me happy. My favorite sport however, is basketball. I enjoy basketball because in basketball I can express myself by being competitive. When I play I get this feeling that I can play forever, and keep wanting to get better and better. And in basketball you can practice anytime, anywhere.

Unlike in other sports such as volleyball where you need another person or a court or net or something to actually practice, basketball is different. You only need a ball and you can practice. Ever since I was four years old, basketball has been a part of my life, playing basketball brings up a feeling that I can't describe.

Another thing I enjoy about basketball is that it's a team sport and that you can build a strong connection with your teammates. You trust your teammates and they trust you, that's what I believe leads to victory and a successful team. Basketball has been a part of my life since I was four, and I can't imagine my life without it. It would like a part of my soul has disappeared.



Yuna
Lee

Interview by Jiwon Seo (Grade 12)

BFS is a place I will miss when I leave for college. When I first came, the new building wasn't finished and it was still under construction. They didn't have the field or the gym. Nothing... It was really small and it was my first time going to school this small. But then after getting to know people, it started to feel like an actual family.

The school always emphasized that they are a small community and like a family. The teachers actually know you outside of classroom and it was very fun to get to know other people in such a small group. When I was young, I was super shy. You have no idea. However, I realized BFS is really supportive of each other. And that made me more open to people. In big schools, they don't really know you, but everyone really knows you here.

Also, I was not a competitive person, like I work for stuff, but not to go against other people. But for volleyball, the energy in that group was very supportive and it has taught me that sports can be actually fun. It made me a little bit more competitive.

It sounds a bit ironic that even though it's such a small school, I got to know these people more deeply. Like rather than getting to know people shallowly, you get to know these small group of people in depth.

The people are really amazing and that's what I like about Busan Foreign School.

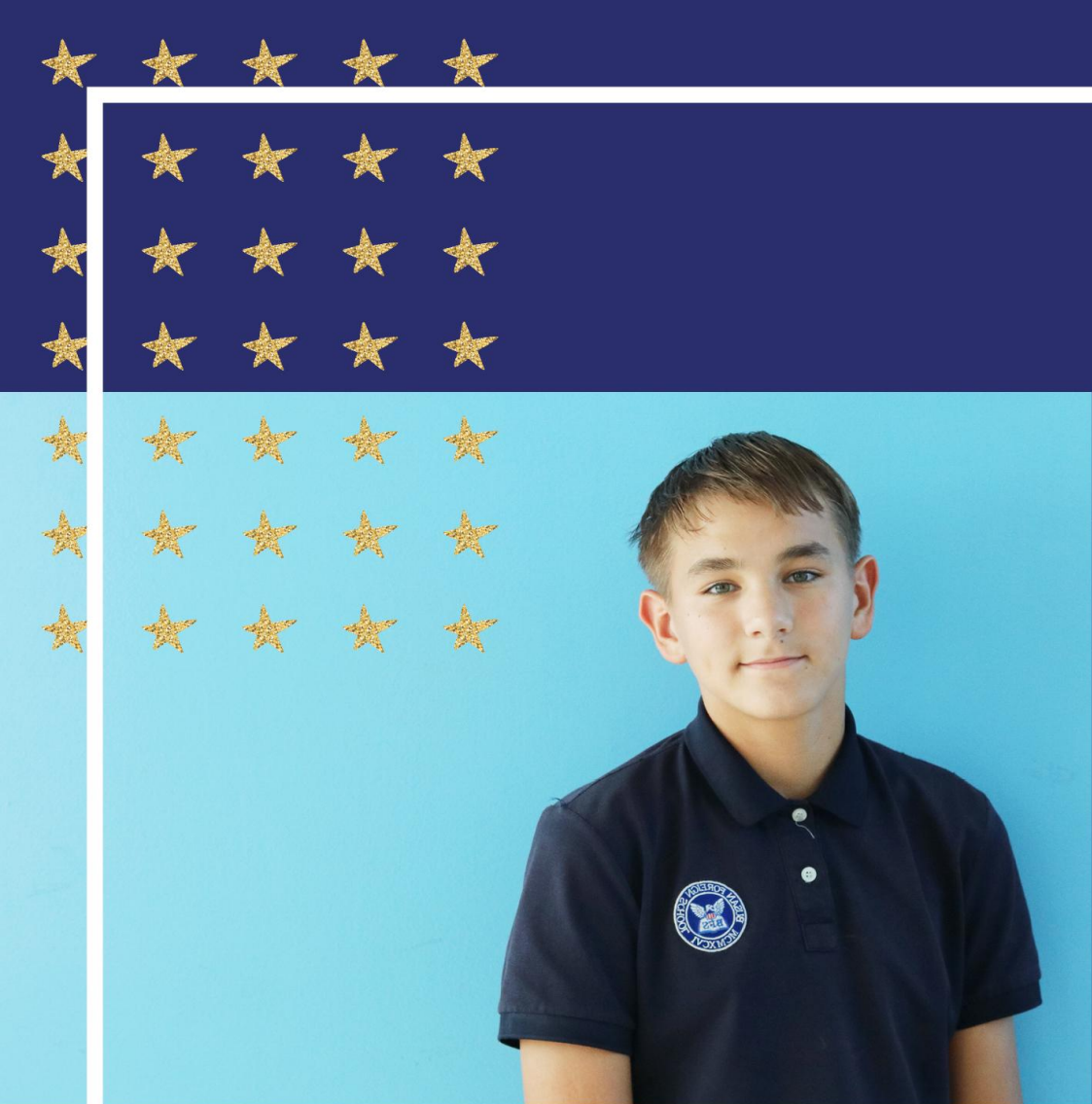


Mr. Dylan Barnes

Interview by Eunsam Park (Grade 9)

I miss my Dad the most. He was the person that always told me to be successful, you know, the best of the best. For example, when I graduated, he told me to get a master's degree. He always told me to get better. He was important to me in the ways that I could rely on him, get advice, even though I might not get the advice I wanted. Still, it always added a valuable perspective to my life.

If I were to meet him again, I would say... I would say thank you. Thank you for all of the good advice that he gave, teaching me how to be the best rounded person I could be. Thank you for instilling me that there is only one way, and the only one way is the right way, and the right way always requires best effort.



Danil Galkin

Interview by Jiwon Seo (Grade 12)

Right now, probably, I miss my grandfather because he's a really close person to me. He has grey hair, he is really funny, and he jokes around with me sometimes in a rude way, but I don't take it seriously because it's just a joke. He makes me feel delighted when I am close to him because he did many things for me, like give me presents for my birthday.

My favorite moment with my grandfather was when we went together on a motorcycle to get some berries from a forest. He would always be the one to cut the bushes and the trees in our own little forest that he made for us, so we wouldn't get any splinters.

It was last summer that I saw him, but I only visited him for two weeks. I wish I could've stayed longer, but I had to go back. I hope I can see him next summer.



Edwards Doh

Interview by Luke Seol (Grade 10)

I'm a teenager and I just started my freshmen year. Being a freshman made me become more responsible about things. Tests I have in school makes me nervous. Even though I would study for 2 days before the day of the test, it still makes me anxious. I use to have this obsession with grades that whenever my grades would be bad or below an A+, it would make me sad and depressed. I wouldn't talk to people or not even eat properly.

It feels like my life drops whenever my grades drop. It sounds weird but everytime after I feel nervous and anxious before a test, I would feel stupid about myself on why I felt nervous about it. I guess as I grow older in the future, life in general would be nervous to me. I am afraid on what will happen next. When I turn 20, I will be busy working and taking responsibility of my life. So what determines then is how I do right now..



Minsung Kwon

Interview by Anthony Crutcher (Grade 9)

Years ago I wasn't very confident around things and people. But while I was growing up things changed. My environment changed, where I live changed, and my friends changed. They all changed, so I think I needed to change too. I changed by being more confident around other people.

No one helped me change. I did it all by myself because I wanted to be more confident. Things became better now and now I have more friends. I have more friends now because I am confident enough to make friends.



Viktor Babitskii

Interview by Jasmin Sloomweg (Grade 9)

My favorite place to go is the reservoir near school. I usually go there when I feel like it, and when i'm interested in going. I go there a lot during spring, because it's not too hot, or cold and there is great weather.

I like going there in the evening. I listen to my music and I feel peaceful. I smell the forest, I see spotlights, a few people, forests, and wildlife.

When I am there, I like to listen to music while walking. I usually go there when I have to take care of my little brother. Overall, everything about the reservoir is nice.

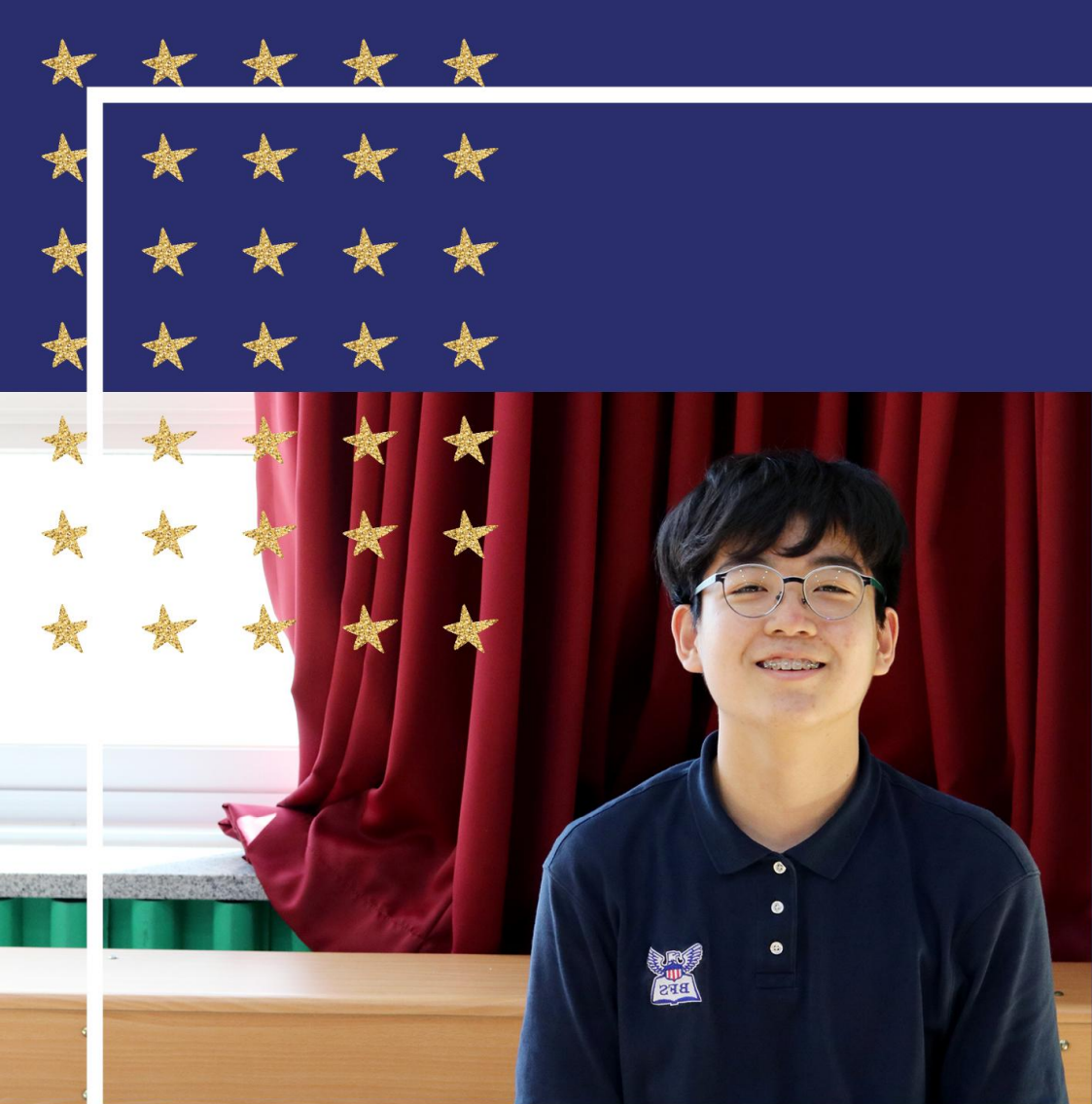


Jasmin Slootweg

Interview by Viktor Babitskii (Grade 10)

My dream is to be a famous actress or singer. I like singing a lot, but not in people's company, but I've been working on that. Every time the school's board of directors asks me to sing at an event, I always accept.

I have not decided on my future profession yet, but I might try to go into business or acting. To make this future profession come true, I am trying my best. But right now, I'm just worried about my tests that I have coming up.



Chiyeon Lee

Interview by Brian Yang (Grade 11)

My most embarrassing moment in my life was actually this year, biology with Mr. Lee. It was the first day of school so I was pressured in a way. I wasn't sure if I should be a bit laid back and to be calm. So I was sitting straight up, waiting for instructions and he called on another person called Siyun but then it sounds like a lot like my name Chiyeon so I answered instead. Then he commented about how it was embarrassing of me to do that and he was making fun of me. Then I looked back and everyone was laughing at me.

When I was young I ran up to my mom's friend and hugged her thinking it was my mom but I found myself looking up to see a speechless woman. Yeah that was another embarrassing moment.

Afterwards? No one really cared it was a personal thing.



Brian Cho

Interview by Dan Shinn (Grade 9)

Although I am not set with a particular goal, my main focus is to get an adequate grade that satisfies me which is anything better than a B-. The reason behind this goal was because I believe getting high grades will let me have the favor to choose top tier colleges. Getting into good colleges will later let me choose better jobs.

However, I believe that it was my mindset that got me this far. The method that I use to accomplish my goal is to focus on class and write important notes down in class. I think that this method is a very effective way to reach my goal. That's because every time I've used this approach, I've been getting better grades than I've expected. I believe there really isn't an obstacle that has blocked my way, but just some minor distractions that delayed my progression to the goal.



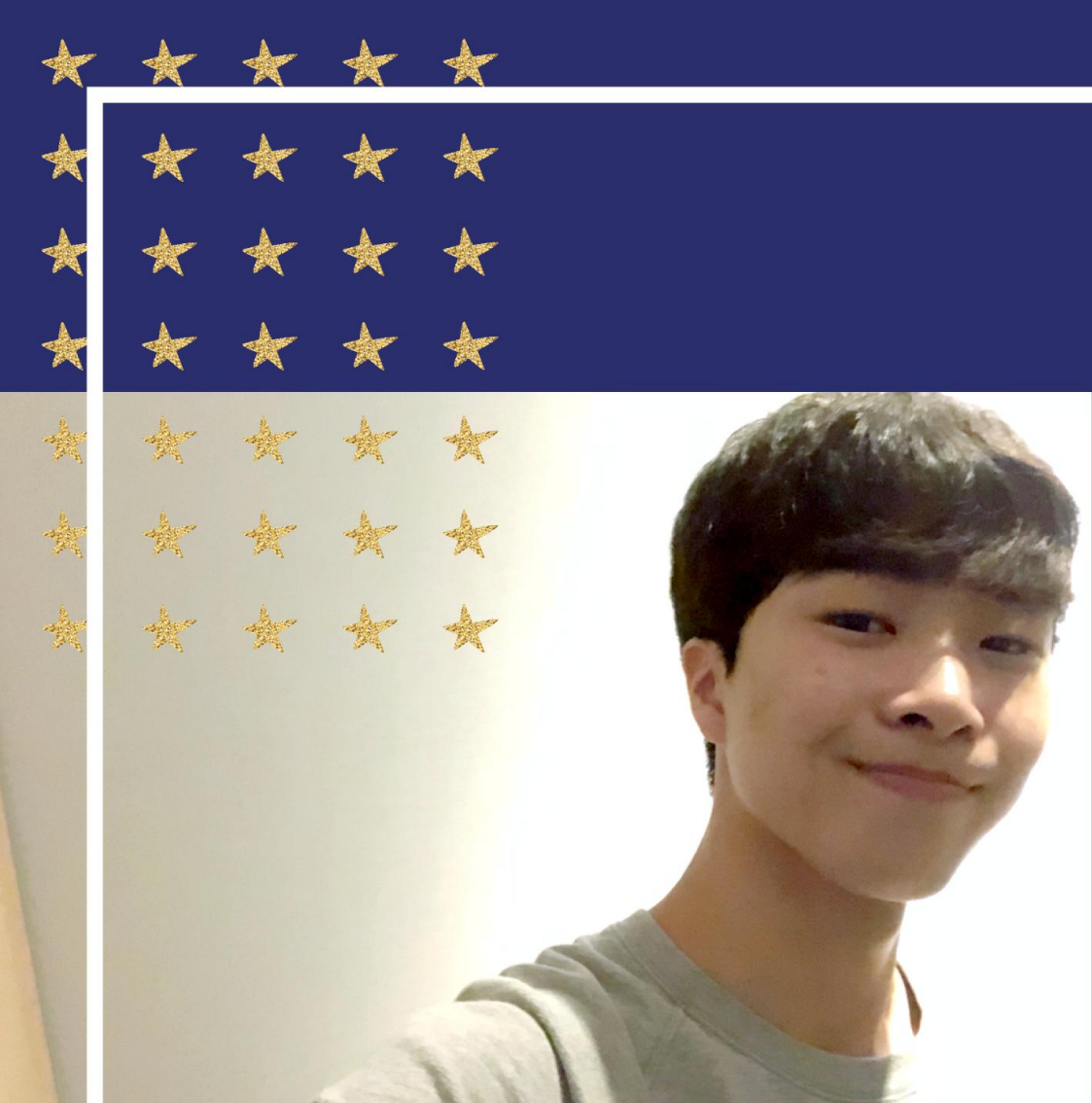
Mr.
Scott Cressey

Interview by Edwards Doh (Grade 9)

Oh wow, Oh that one. It was also the joyful moment of my life. When we had Noah my first born. Yep, He came out and I was extremely happy and then they put the little guy in my arms and I realized that I am now forever responsible for this guy. And so far we've been doing ok.

But it was a good scare. It wasn't terrifying, it was just when reality hit me And it's been a wonderful ride. This one counted.

Right before all the little things that you are scared about, this one really counts. You've been nervous going into tests, but one test doesn't change your life. You've been nervous in job interviews but if you don't get that one, there's always another job. I'm sure when you are going to be driving there is going to some near-death experience that like "Woah, that scared me". But this one counted, everything I do with this little guy from here on counts. Whether he does something indirectly or directly, it would be in someway my fault. That being said, if he does something wonderful I'll also get a little pride in.



Andy
Kwoun

Interview by Siyun Kwoun (Grade 9)

I like how our school has a free dress day every Friday. Also, I like our school's lunch menu, because it is divided into two menus which are Korean and American so that we can choose the menu by our taste.

And my favorite subject in school is environmental science class because the teacher is very energetic and funny. To add more, he gives plenty of group projects. And I like group projects because usually communication takes place instead of listening to lectures.

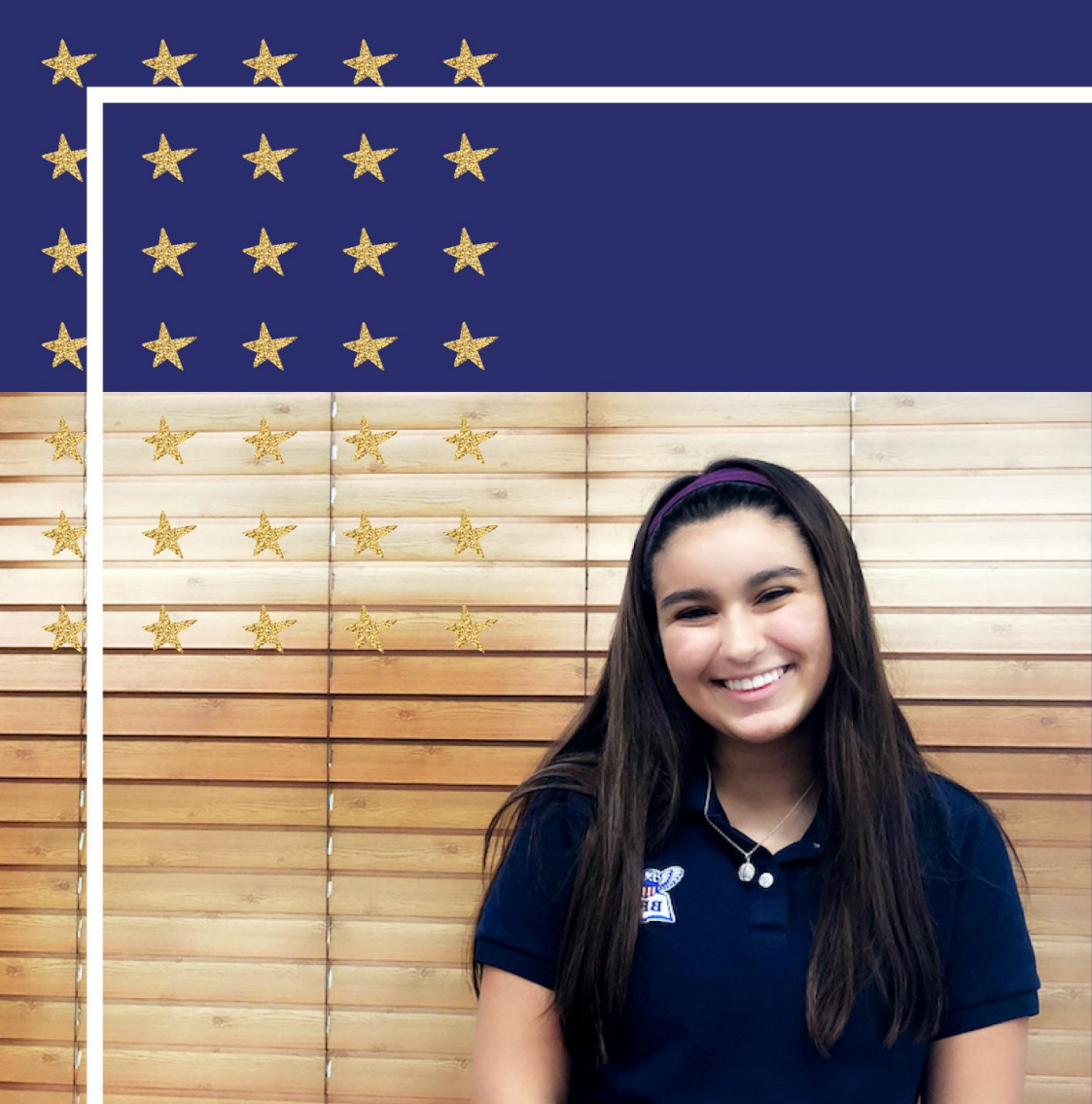


Ruth Chung

Interview by Sharin Kim (Grade 9)

I started playing volleyball when I was pretty young. I think maybe when I was 10 or 11. I decided to play volleyball because my dad was really into volleyball and my sisters became into it too. They are both older than me and so, you know, I just followed them. I lost interest in volleyball around the 8th grade or something, but I regained my interest after I started watching a volleyball anime.

I started out in JB in my freshman year when I was attending a different high school and I became in varsity itself in a sophomore year, but throughout my time in varsity, I was one of the only ones who couldn't overhand serve. It was very hard for me to overhand serve but I kept practicing and so the first time I got it over, I felt really good. After that, I kept playing volleyball consistently.



Amaya Anzola

Interview by Annika Kim (Grade 9)

I think what inspires me are different experience I've had, different people I've met - but mostly my family. The people that play a really good role model in my life, such as my grandparents and teachers I've had. Mostly just people that are able to live their life looking at positive things that can help not only themselves but also the people around them as well.

I think it inspires and influences me as much as it does right now because I always try to be that 'positive' person, rather than dwelling on those negative moments that will fade out anyway. Have this ever not inspired me? Actually there... has. Some events and some moments don't have that positive side, those times where I can't find the clarity and peace of the world, just letting out those sad emotions.

But again, letting them just wash away is okay, you need to do that sometimes. I know for sure that if this inspiration ever disappears, I can search for another inspiration just as good or maybe even become the inspiration myself.



Diana Volodina

Interview by Rachel Jung (Grade 10)

For me the scariest moment of my life was probably when I went to a waterpark when I was 8 and almost drowned. I was in the deep end of the wave pool and then a giant wave was coming towards me.

Then suddenly I was underwater for like 5 seconds and I was freaking out, even though eventually I got out, I was very scared. There were no one to help me because my parents weren't nearby.

But when my parents found out, they were scared, and very shocked, and felt sorry for me since I was by myself during the time I drowned. Overall, I hope I'm not in that situation ever again.



Samuel Yang

Interview by Albert Oh (Grade 9)

My hobby is basketball although I like other sports as well such as cross country, volleyball, badminton, and gaming of course. My dad likes basketball so he was the one who introduced me to it, and that's how I got started playing basketball.

Though at first, I didn't really truly enjoy basketball, I just did it because everyone else seemed to play. However, since 6th grade I felt the joy and excitement I still feel today when I play basketball. It has inspired me to play with my heart and soul, as I reach for my goal of becoming a professional basketball player.

I trained myself for years and have been through rough and hard months of the sport. I play all day, everyday. At home, I have a basketball net where I practice my form before school. During school at recess and break, I spend all my time playing basketball, and at home, I practice my form and shoot until 7, when I have to start doing homework.

I treasure basketball, and basketball is part of me now.



Sergei Chernov

Interview by Viktor Babitskii (Grade 10)

The most memorable moment in my life is when I went for soccer tournament in Norway and England where I got to know a lot of incredible players and coaches that helped me become a better player. To become better in football I want to improve at doing pull-ups and push-ups and also I have time to go to the gym every day.

Football is a very interesting sport but when I remember the dangerous moments in my mind then it comes when I was diving in Philippines with a lot of dangerous fish including Moray eel.

I have good friends and I like spending time with them because we do a lot of fun things together. I would to round the world with my friends because it would be very interesting to visit a lot of new places and get to know a lot of new people. My goal is to become professional soccer player which is really difficult to become, but I am sure I can do it.



Mr. Michael Gates

Interview by Dan Shinn (Grade 9)

A goal that I currently have is to make sure all of my AP Calculus students pass their AP exams, meaning they get a grade of 3 or higher. This is my first year teaching AP calculus and I just want to do well and to teach effectively so all of my students pass the exam.

I've actually been wanting to teach AP Calculus since I began teaching. It was my AP Calculus teacher that inspired me to be a math teacher and since then, I've always wanted to get back into teaching AP calculus. In order to know that I'm teaching effectively, I've been handing out surveys to give me feedback on what's working well for them and what isn't.

I think that the method I'm using is effective because they've always been giving positive feedbacks whenever I hand the survey out. Also, I think this is definitely helping me, but also helping the students.



Mr. Glenn Saunders

Interview by Ricardo Rusca (Grade 12)

My father inspired me, I'd try to model myself after him he was an old school guy he would get up early and mow lawn before I even wake up, he worked the same job for almost 40 years, didn't have the opportunity to go to university but still found great success economically.

Here in Korea my dad never thought I would be here, he gave me a lot of freedom. Try to model myself after my dad, I have him on a pedestal standard is quite high maybe I can at least get to the 90th percentile of that I would call that successful.

He is now in Massachusetts with my mom still married. Grandparents to 4 lovely granddaughters. I look forward to being old people together. Hard to say a lot is implied not a very talkative family I sort of model my behavior after my father. As I got older my relationship with my father has gotten closer. From age 0-10 big influence, 10-18 relationship of not being a little kid communication got kind of awkward, early 20s got better more adult relationship.

My father was a very dependable man. One of my favorite moments of my dad was at my sister's wedding my father gave an amazing toast speech that I didn't know he had this in him I've never seen that side of him until this wedding.



Chef Seung Hwan Kwon

Interview by Brian Cho (Grade 9)

I came here to BFS when chef Oscar was gone, I worked here as a chef for a little and after when chef Oscar quited, I came back.

When I was in college, I studied on chemical engineering but when I went on a part time job as a chef I changed the path. As I became a Chef, my family helped me the most for sure.

As I did my job as a chef I once worked at a Mohegan Sun Casino as a chef, which was hardest time. Language problem, lots of work, also I was wanting to see my family too as I stayed there. Well, it was hard but it was nice after it finished.

When I make the food for the students I think it as a food for my family and my child. I also never thought about changing the goal, I think it would be similar to right now.



Ms. Megan Boyle

Interview by Anastasia Korniyukhina (Grade 10)

I think the biggest obstacle I had to overcome is moving to Korea and not being the majority. I am the only white person on the street, and I don't know how to speak this language and no one else knows how to speak English.

While everywhere else I've been in the world, mostly Europe, everyone knew how to speak English, and I wasn't the only white person. Going through that shift to try and understand who I was in this space and culture that I did not understand, and when people didn't understand me. I think that is the biggest challenge.

I still get really frustrated with these little cultural things that I expect because I lived in The West my whole life. I just have to adjust my perspective and be more flexible and be more open-minded.

My friends who work here and who also went through the same culture shock and shift, they helped me a lot. With them you know you are not alone. Having people around you who are going through the same thing and can empathize with you and also keep you in check, that is very good and that helps.

Moving to Korea definitely made me more open-minded. It made me more flexible, and it made me, I hope a better person. Who is more aware of my privilege and my space in the world, and the space that I take up.

If someone is going through the same thing, I would recommend finding friends. And also just letting go of what you thought the world should be."



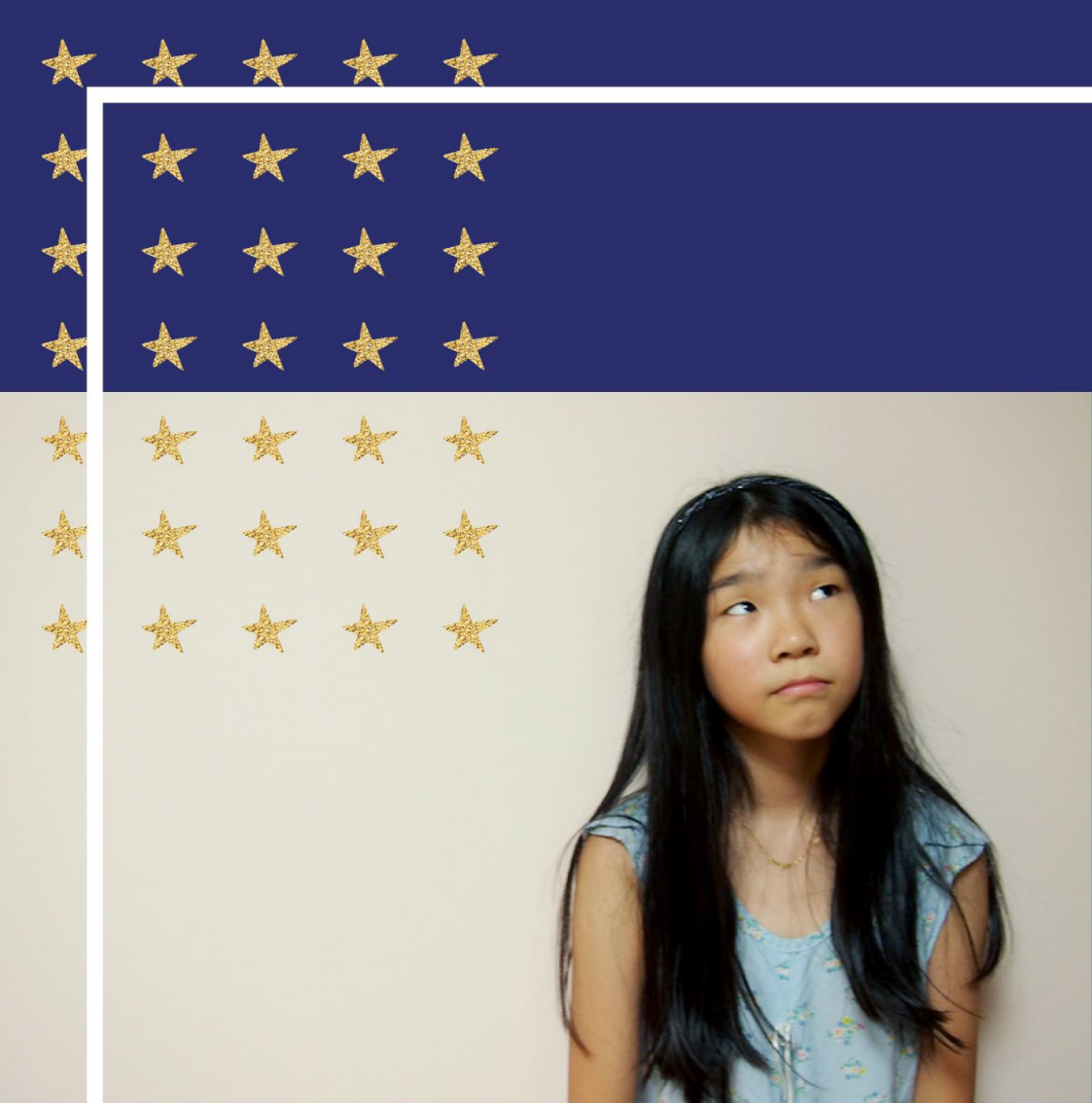
Misha Ivashchenko

Interview by Danil Galkin (Grade 9)

The thing that makes me feel the happiest is doing something that I love, like playing soccer with my friends and family because this is the thing I like doing and I get to meet with my friends and family. Before I used to prefer being alone and reading, but now I realize that meeting with friends is better.

The last time I felt the happiest was on my birthday in December, we rented a soccer field and we played a football game with my whole family and a few friends for an hour and a half. And after that game we went to get pizza and just have fun.

If that thing didn't exist I would feel really sad, but I would also try to find something else that would make me feel happier which would probably be a simulation or a computer game. But I don't think that something else could make me feel happier than playing soccer with my friends.



Eunhoo Park

Interview by Eunsaem Park (Grade 9)

When I was in Japan, I went to NEWIS, but when we came to Korea, we went to BFS. In BFS we learned more stuff like math and writing grammar, and I think I became better at that. BFS taught me a lot of things, and I really appreciate that because then I became calmer, even though when I was in the other school I was always in full energy.

Now, I make diverse friends from all over the world and sit with them, talking English all the time. In my old school, we could talk in any language we wanted, so my English was bad. It became better though. I think I would still go to BFS, even when I had the choice to go back to the old school.



David Lee

Interview by Luke Seol (Grade 10)

When I was really young around 8 years old, I got my first Nintendo DS. That is when I first got into gaming. The first game I got for my DS was mario kart, and it was a whole new world to me. One problem was that I had a set time to play on my DS which was 1 hour only.

Now I play on my gaming laptop and I do not have a time limit, so I can play for hours without anyone telling me to stop. I just play for fun so I am not really good at the games I play. Playing games help me from taking a break from studying, and also relieves stress. Since I currently have to concentrate more on school, I do not have much free time to play games.

But I still do during the weekends or when I am done with my school work. Too much video games is harmful since my eyesight can get worse or even get addicted. But I personally think it is okay if you keep it under a limit. But as I grow older, video games feel like a waste of time. Now I more enjoy hanging out with friends in the reality world."



Oleg Yuguy

Interview by Alex Lee (Grade 10)

Dinan. I like to spend time with Dinan because he is one of my best friends and whenever I have nothing to do I can invite him and we go somewhere. The place we go to the most is PC bang, pool, karaoke and watch movies in the Cinema.

I started talking and being friends with Dinan, 3 years ago. We went to PC bang together for 5 hours and that's when our friendship began. I think he's a very funny person and his personality is very unique because I've never seen anyone as energetic and wild as Dinan. I see Dinan almost every weekend. We also go to the gym together every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Hmmm. Most memorable moment with dinan. I think my most memorable moment with Dinan is going to the Jeju trip for volleyball because we got to spend time alone, since we used the same room and we got a lot closer because of that. We didn't have anything to do in the room so we just talked and got closer. And I don't think the Jeju trip wouldn't have been fun without him because we were having fun during the games as well.



Ms. Heidi Gleb

Interview by Sunny Kim (Grade 12)

The traveling bug bit me after college. I used to live in England and traveled around Europe, including to Germany to ski. Then I moved to Turkey and traveled all over the Middle East. After that, I went back to the States but I would travel to Europe every summer and do a walking trip for two to three weeks. These trips included a 10-kilometer walk in each of the cities I visited. For me, traveling opens up new cultures and new experiences, which I can share with my students.

When I was a librarian in the States, a teacher asked me to help him come up with a lesson on the Vikings. In previous summers, I had visited Iceland and seen a Viking site. A couple of years prior to that, I was on a trip to Canada to another Viking site. So I used those pictures and made a little Powerpoint presentation for those eighth graders.

Everyone is different with regards to travel: some people want to go online, close their eyes and choose randomly. I would say, one thing for me, is the weather. If you don't like rainy weather then you're not going to go to a certain place during the rainy season. Or if you don't like hot weather, you can look at which areas are above or below the equator and choose according to the season. A lot of people like architecture, so they might want to go to Italy, Germany, or the Alps.

The best education comes from traveling.



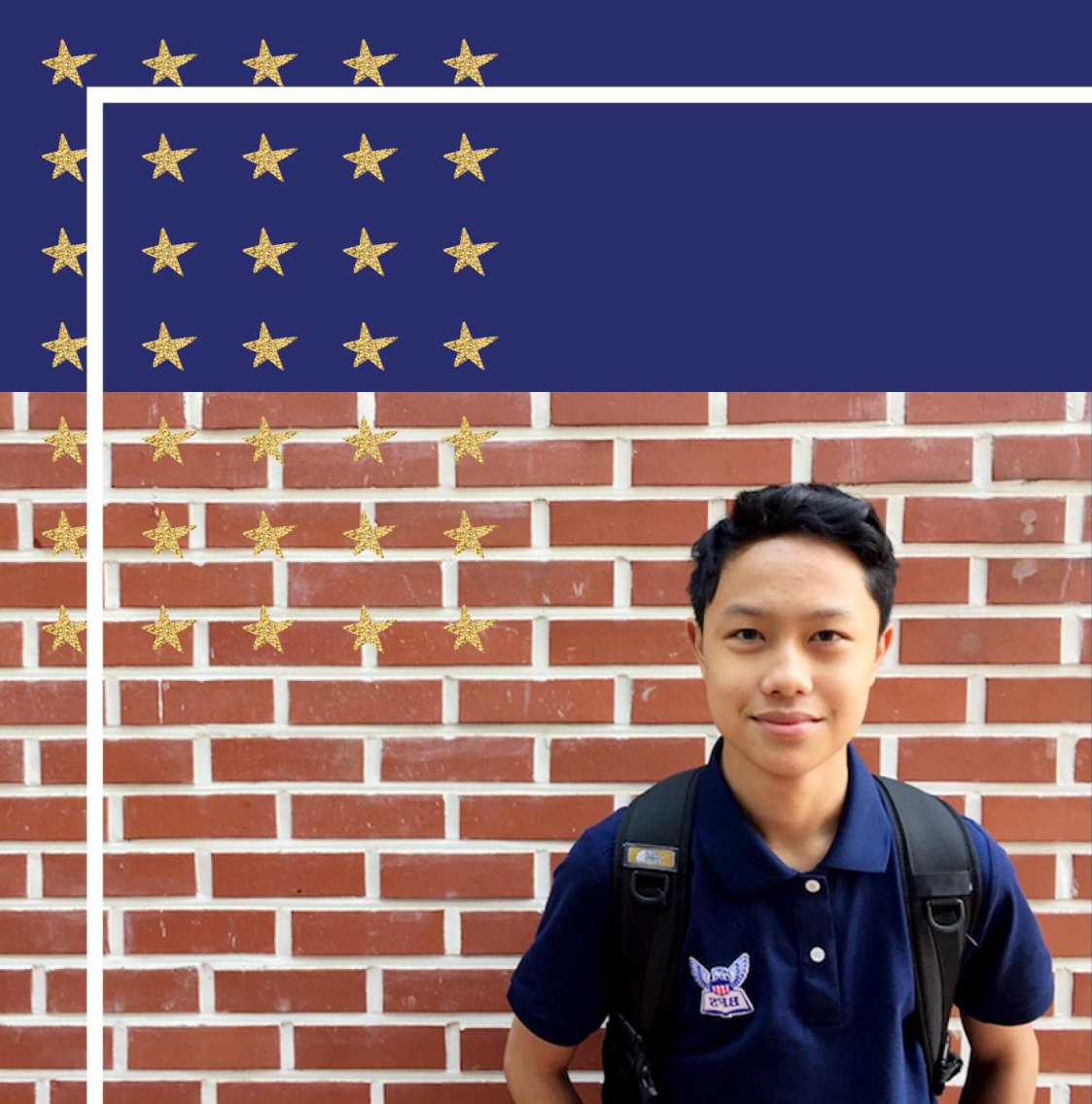
Hyunjun Park

Interview by Chiyeon Lee (Grade 9)

The most important person in my life is my mom as she was there for me everytime I needed here. She is the most important person in my life because she guides me well and she meets my criteria of a mother.

She has changed as a person to be more respectful. I think my mother considers me as her most important person as well, since she cares for me a lot and tries very hard to guide me throughout my life to be more respectful like her. If I were to be like her, I would want her characteristic of being respectful because she has always tried to get me to become respectful.

My favorite memory with my mom is spending time with her outside when I was little, while knowing that there was somebody around me that loved me.



Trenton Soumphonphakdy

Interview by Kale Barrer (Grade 10)

It's really hard to say what my toughest obstacle in life was. I feel like adjusting to this new school was an difficult for me. It was like the rug being pulled out under from me. It was very sudden.

First I'm in this American public school where the school looked underfunded, then I transferred to this shiny, new heaven where the grade standards are high with a new set of strangers at each turn.

I was afraid. I had to start at the beginning again. The school had someone show me around, as they do with all the new students, but I just felt that it was not enough for me. I don't know how I overcame it.

I think overtime, I just got used to it. I made new friends, said goodbye to old ones and kept my usual routine.



Nauman Shaikh

Interview by Ilya Kim (Grade 12)

I think the most influential person in my life would be my dad. If I were to describe my dad in one word, it would be enlightened. I think my dad is brilliant, and respectful. He is very influential. I would have to give him all the credit as he has been supportive. He has always helped guide me through his wisdom and knowledge of his life.

I think my dad has always been there he to show me the right way in the difficult situations. He just had an overall impactful influence on who I am today.

My dad helped me out with some problematic situations that happened in my old school. I mean back in my old school, I told people that I am Muslim openly and for that, I got mocked a lot. here were a lot of jokes that people made that were hurtful in my opinion. They thought they were funny, but in my opinion, they were not. So my dad taught me how to move past those obstacles and become a better person.



Anika Cho

Interview by Annika Kim (Grade 9)

I think something that inspires me is volleyball. I love volleyball so much that I always feel ready to play volleyball. I also watch volleyball games on Youtube whenever I have free time. I have played volleyball since 9th grade and it has always been my favorite sport since the moment I've started playing it.

In addition, not only volleyball itself, but the whole team also inspires me a lot. I love our current BFS girls volleyball team because everyone is friendly and hard-working. With this team, I am certain that we will win the tournament again this year. I am so excited for the rest of the season and of course the Jeju trip, so I hope my team members feel the same way.



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