

Hearts and Wings

Issue 4: June 2022



congratulations

TEDxYouth@ HaileyburyAstana

Written by Naira

Last year, our school hosted its first TEDxYouth@HaileyburyAstana event. This year marks the second such event.

TED is a non-profit organisation. You have probably seen one of their TED-ED videos or a TED talk, underpinned by their slogan of Ideas worth spreading. TEDx is an opportunity for groups and institutions, such as our school, to run their own event in the same spirit. The event being held at our school is a youth event, meaning that its goal is to involve students and young people by getting them to consider global issues and engage in meaningful conversation.

The team organising this event was a group of sixth form students, led by Year 13 student, Aigerim. I was happy to be one of the team-members organising the event this year. My primary role was as a designer; I designed the logo, banner, made some doodles for promotional posts and worked on the website. I was also able to help with some of the broader organisational aspects and setting up for the event. As I was unable to attend last year's TEDxYouth@HaileyburyAstana event due to IGCSE examinations, I was excited to get a chance to not only attend but get involved in this one.

Last year's theme was Forwards, with speeches exploring a range of ideas and themes ranging from sexual education, to habit

creation, to energy generation. This year, the theme is Unique. With this theme, the hope was to encourage the event's attendees to consider their own uniqueness. What makes one unique, and how can we use this to make meaningful contributions to the world around us?



To help the audience consider these questions, the event featured eight incredible speakers. The roster was as follows:

Amer Asfour

Creative director of A – the Event Planner of Kazakhstan

Sofiya Temirkhanova

University student, artist and musician

Madina Syptayeva

Founder and adviser at Atlas School

Daulet Mukhanov

University student, invented algae-based bioplastic

Kathy Leach

UK ambassador to Kazakhstan

Ainur Bekenova

University student

Baurzhan Sagiyev

Director of TSE Art Destination gallery

Sanzhar Bazilzhanov

Founder and chairman of Adal Volunteer Club Youth Organisation

Each of the speeches was engaging and brought a new angle, a new perspective to being unique. They covered topics from providing education for the 'average' student, to video games as a medium of expression, to the role IT plays in society.

We arrived at school at 8:30 am, three hours before the event was scheduled to start; there was a lot to do. We set up the filming equipment, sorted out microphones, and finished up the presentation for the event (collating all the speakers' slides into one). Speakers arrived at varying times and were based in the staff room where they were able to mingle and have something to eat. A brief technical rehearsal was held at around 11:00 am to ensure the microphones and clicker were working properly, and the speakers were ready to perform. Breaks were held between every 2-3 speeches, with food and drink available. These breaks were rife with conversation, as there was much to discuss after each speech. The event generally ran pretty smoothly, and we tried to troubleshoot as it went, promptly dealing with any issues that arose.

A lot of effort and preparation went into this event as our team had to coordinate with the speakers, prepare lanyards and badges, market and promote the



event, and set up the registration forms. During the event we had help from six volunteers, year 12 students who had kindly agreed to spend their Saturday at school. Thank you very much to Uzeir, Kaiden, Meray S, Anara, Tomiris and Rakhman. We would also like to thank the host, Year 12 student, Bee.



With this event, our team hopes to make the TEDxYouth@HaileyburyAstana event an annual tradition, passed down from one generation of sixth form students to the next, continuing the spirit of community and sharing of ideas long past our own graduation.

Video recordings of the speeches will soon be available on the TEDx Talks Youtube channel, so keep an eye out if you are interested.

You can check out the official TEDxYouth@HaileyburyAstana Instagram here: <https://www.instagram.com/tedx youth haileybury astana>

Visit our website: <https://www.tedx youth haileybury astana.com>



Mental Health Awareness Week

Written by Begim-Ana



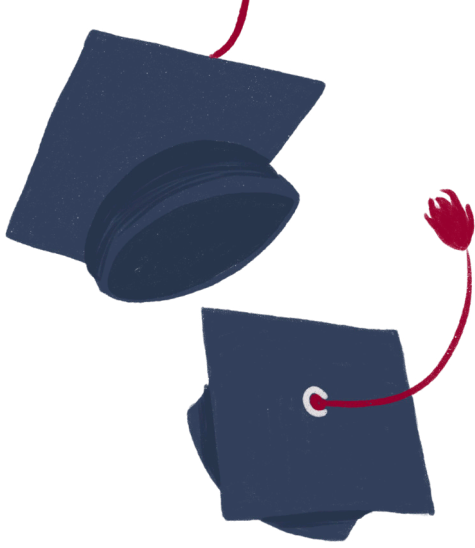
From 16th to 20th May, we celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week. This week was full of activities open to pupils, to raise awareness about the importance of mental health support. For the purpose of this article, I interviewed Miss Bakhyt (School Counsellor) and one of the key organisers of this week.

The activities which were in accordance with the theme of “Managing Our Emotions”, were comprised of many different mindfulness related activities. These ranged from guided meditation to colouring with the maths department. As well as drumming circles, historical

timelines and writing activities conducted by different departments. As an ending to this week, senior school pupils wore green in support of this initiative, to increase awareness and understanding of mental health conditions and the types of care available at Haileybury.

One of the prevalent activities, which lasted from Tuesday till Friday, was the Peer Listening Sessions, which I along with 4 other year 12 pupils (Naira, Tomiris, Batyrally, Dimash) led. These peer listening sessions “provided the opportunities to pupils to feel safe to discuss issues with peers”, moreover

it helped to reassure pupils that they were and are heard and that there are plenty of people they can come to talk to. The peer listeners were not acting as substitutes for the school counsellors but rather as a listening ear for pupils in need of one. In preparation for these sessions, we had active listening training, about the structure of active listening sessions, and what kind of questions should be asked. Having participated in this activity, I am so honoured to have been able to get to listen to and discuss issues with pupils and to see what kind of issues students were going through. I along with



others are looking forward to pursuing this project further. As it was quite successful, in taking a step forward to dispelling the stigma around going to the school counsellor or talking to people about your issues. This was a particular aim of the School Counsellor.

The School Counsellor would like to remind students that if they are having difficulties coping with their emotional states, they cannot ignore their mental health, and should not suffer alone. She encourages pupils to seek assistance from, but not limited to, professionals, like her, or the available caring adults that are in school.

To book a counselling session with Miss Bakhyt you can find a form in the student support section of the school's website or follow this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1jHOL5g-XCxBAVbQ6N-Qfw8SxJhWCLTjjsS5pZw9voLbo/view-form?ts=6135c2eb&edit_requested=true



Just the Beginning

Written by Korkem-Ay

As the academic year is coming to a close so is our time in school. For most of us, we will return next year and without much change. However, it is a different story for our graduating class of 2022, that will be opening a new chapter of their lives outside the sheltering of school walls.

The graduation ceremony and the subsequent Prom event will be held at the Sheraton Hotel on the 18th June. It was organised by Yr 13 students Arina Min. and Bibi T. in collaboration with the Pupil Leadership team and the amazing staff at Haileybury Astana. The theme of the Prom is: 'Old Hollywood Red Carpet', and will feature a stunning array of golds and bold reds in its palette. It is an ode to the memories they made in Haileybury Astana and memories that will be made years to come.

I conducted an interview with some of the Yr 13s to find out how they feel about graduating. Many have reported being nervous, "kind of terrified", but also "relieved to finally start adulthood", which is to be expected especially after the gruelling years of IBDP and the final exams they have experienced. Most are also "incredibly excited" to start university and begin climbing a new step on the ladder in pursuit of their passions and dreams.

However, the sudden influx of free time after countless revision hours has been jarring. "I am struggling to balance choosing active and fulfilling activities over passively watching or scrolling



through something." This is a statement many can relate with, but for the graduating class in particular, after the stress they have experienced it is also important to not "put too much pressure on yourself to be productive", sometimes, scrolling through your feed all day is a deserved rest.

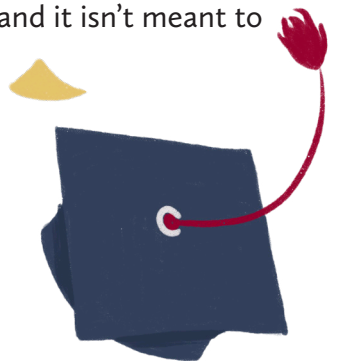
There is also some advice they wanted to pass on to the younger members of our school community:

1) *"It is important to try and find something that you love doing."*

It could be a hobby that can turn into a career path or merely an activity that brings you joy and inner peace. The former may help you choose your subjects in IB or IGCSE and provide you with a plan of what you want to study at university, but the latter can aid you in maintaining a healthy mindset through stressful situations like exams. So when you are free, you are encouraged to go out and try new things, maybe something you never thought you might like will actually stick with you.

2) *"If you are feeling worse than you thought you would, I want you to know that you're not alone and that it's okay."*

When you are struggling and you realise you can't help yourself, ask for help. When you are in a slump that you cannot pull yourself out of, it is okay to ask a trusted person to aid you. Even if they will be unable to physically help you with the problem, sharing your worries and having someone listen may make the situation a lot more manageable. Life is not a solo journey and it isn't meant to be one.



Transition Day

Written by Claudio

Transition day is always one of the most stressful and nerve racking days of the entire year; this time was not different. You could tell just how nervous some of the students were as soon as you walked into the hall.

The whole point of transition day here at Haileybury Astana is for the Year Seven classes to share their experiences about senior school to the Year Sixes. I remember my transition day when I asked my question to the Year Sevens at the time (now Year Eights). Their answers gave me a sense of assurance that I knew what I was going into. The types of questions asked vary a lot during transition day.

Some people were asking things about what new subjects arrived in Year 7 that were not there in Year 6. Others were curious about the time table and where they would go for different lessons, since in Year 6 the class has one homeroom teacher that teaches most of the subjects, but in Senior School the students have to move around the school to get to the classes which are all taught by separate teachers. Moving around so much can take some getting used to, trust me, I know.



Overall though, the most asked question and the thing that was worrying most of the students at the time was the class sorting system. In Senior School almost all the classes are divided into houses, with Kipling and Bartle Frere staying together and Attlee and Edmonstone being together. This means that the students will be split apart and a lot of them were worried about being separated from their friends. I was honestly very scared and worried about this myself, some students even asked if they could change houses to be with their friends. While, unfortunately, that is not possible, if there's one thing that I've learned it's that being split up like that doesn't make you lose friends, it lets you make more. So to all the Year sixes, don't consider this separation as something sad, instead consider it a new range of opportunities.

In the end, once you get past the rocky beginning, transition day is a lot of fun for both the Year sixes and the Year sevens. It really does help boost the confidence of the students moving to senior school. When I asked some of them they said things like "I am happy my questions were answered" and "that really helped" and for those for whom it didn't, it will be fine regardless.

World News

Compiled by Korkem-Ay



The world's fastest supercomputer just broke the exascale barrier

The milestone will allow for complex calculations that benefit a wide range of research areas



The Frontier supercomputer at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee performed more than a quintillion calculations per second, officially reaching the milestone of exascale computing.

The first exascale computer has officially arrived.

The world's fastest supercomputer performed more than a quintillion calculations per second, entering the realm of exascale computing. That's according to a ranking of the world's speediest supercomputers called the TOP500, announced on May 30. The computer, known as Frontier, is the first exascale computer to be included on the biannual list.

Exascale computing is expected to allow for new advances in a variety of scientific fields that depend on vastly complex calculations. The exascale milestone "represents an

unprecedented capability for researchers around the world to use the computer to ask their specific scientific questions," says Frontier's project director Justin Whitt of Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee.

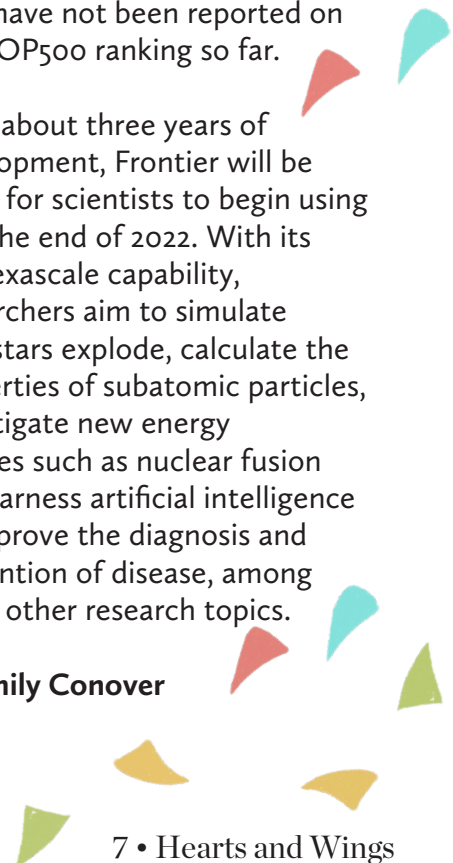
Oak Ridge's Frontier clocked in at about 1.1 exaflops, or 1.1 quintillion operations per second. Frontier beat out the previous record-holder, a supercomputer called Fugaku at the RIKEN Center for Computational Science in Kobe, Japan, which achieved more than 0.4 exaflops.

While tentative reports have suggested that some Chinese supercomputers are already achieving exascale performance,

they have not been reported on the TOP500 ranking so far.

After about three years of development, Frontier will be ready for scientists to begin using it at the end of 2022. With its new exascale capability, researchers aim to simulate how stars explode, calculate the properties of subatomic particles, investigate new energy sources such as nuclear fusion and harness artificial intelligence to improve the diagnosis and prevention of disease, among many other research topics.

By **Emily Conover**



A man in a wig was detained after throwing a piece of cake at the Mona Lisa



A man who seems to have been disguised as an old woman in a wheelchair threw a piece of cake at the Mona Lisa in Paris.

Video posted on social media shows security guards at the Louvre Museum escorting the man away Sunday as he spoke in French about the planet.

"Think of the Earth! There are people who are destroying the Earth! Think about it. Artists tell you: think of the Earth. That's why I did this," he says, according to The Associated Press.

Another video showed someone clearing the cake off the glass protecting the Mona Lisa, as onlookers held up their phones to film the incident's aftermath.

The 36-year-old man was detained and sent to a psychiatric unit, according to the AP.

The original Mona Lisa was painted by Leonardo da Vinci between 1503 and 1519. The oil painting hangs in the Louvre's largest room, according to the museum's website.

This isn't the first time the iconic painting has run into trouble. The protective glass was put up after it was damaged in an acid attack during the 1950s.

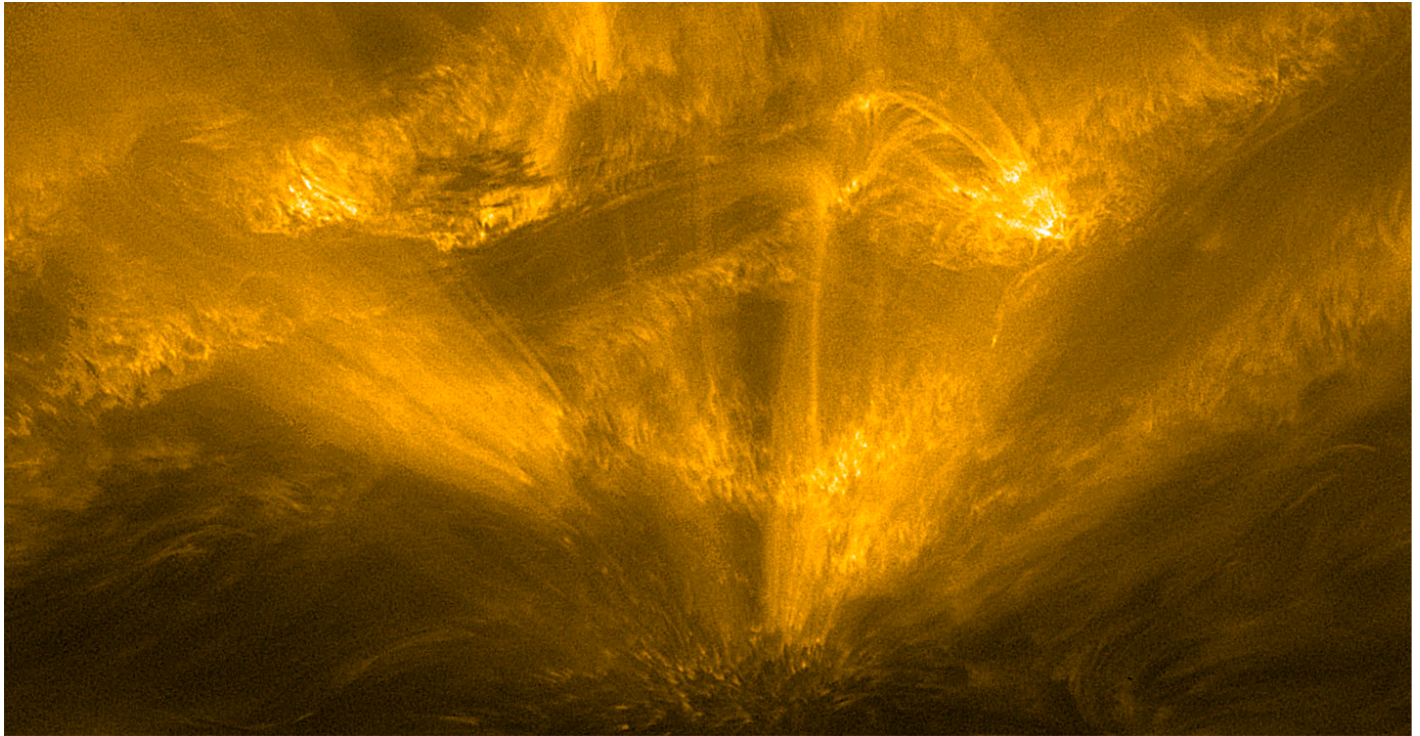
In 1911, the Mona Lisa disappeared from the museum. For more than two years, there were no hints on where it could be, until someone tried to sell the painting to an Italian art dealer, who informed authorities.

"So the Mona Lisa was recovered — and her fame was all the greater," the Louvre says on its website.

By **Rina Torchinsky**

The Solar Orbiter spacecraft spotted a ‘hedgehog’ on the sun

New images are from the ESA-NASA mission’s closest flyby yet of our star



Meet the “hedgehog,” a newly found feature on the sun that appears to radiate spiky jets of cooler gas against a background of hotter plasma. This spiky feature is in the bottom third of the image, below the centre.

A spacecraft has spied a spiky “hedgehog” on the sun and watched a solar flare in ways never done before.

The Solar Orbiter, a collaboration between the European Space Agency and NASA, launched in February 2020 and is now looping around our star. On May 18, researchers released images from the spacecraft’s closest solar flyby yet. That flyby took place March 26 when the orbiter flew within about 48 million kilometres of the sun, closer than Mercury is.

“This is amazing to have this sort of data already,” says solar physicist David Berghmans of the Royal Observatory of Belgium in Brussels.

The observations show a feature nicknamed the hedgehog, due

to its spikes of darker, cooler gas atop hotter material. “Cool’ is relative here, with respect to the 1-million-degree background [plasma],” says Berghmans, the principal investigator of the orbiter’s Extreme Ultraviolet Imager. The scientists don’t know what causes this feature, but think it’s related to long, thin jets of solar material called spicules.

Several days before spying the 25,000-kilometer-wide hedgehog, four of Solar Orbiter’s instruments detected an X-ray flare and observed how it affected nearby space. This is what the spacecraft was built to do, Berghmans says.

The spacecraft’s focus is “connection science,” he says. Solar Orbiter’s instruments detected the solar flare, the shock wave it created and the

produced burst of charged particles and radio signals — one after another — over several hours. Previously, different telescopes would detect these separately over days.

By connecting the sequence of events into “a complete story,” Berghmans says, scientists can better predict the outflows of those charged particles, which are especially dangerous to astronauts, satellites and even high-flying aircraft.

The spacecraft will pass close to the sun roughly every five to six months through 2026. Then, for three more years, the orbiter will swing closer to the sun’s poles, providing scientists with their first head-on views of those regions.

By **Liz Kruesi**

Why it's so hard for a one-hit wonder to have a lasting music career

The musical qualities linked to a first hit conflict with those that make for lasting success



Some consider the Danish band Aqua (seen performing at the 2018 Jelling Music Festival in Denmark) as a one-hit wonder, thanks to their 1997 megahit “Barbie Girl.”

It's hard to predict which songs will become hits. It's even more difficult to predict which artists topping today's charts will go on to record more hits and who will see their fame fizzle out.

Now an extensive study of the pop charts provides some tips about how to avoid being a one-hit wonder. Artists with more variety in their catalog have a better chance to land repeat hits, says Justin Berg, a social scientist who researches creativity and innovation at Stanford University's business school. But there's a dilemma for artists who want to be popular over the long-term. Variety isn't what helps artists land that first hit, Berg reports March 24 in *Administrative Science Quarterly*. It's the similarity of a new song to recent hits.

“There actually isn't a way to thread the needle,” Berg says. “You face a ... trade-off as a new creator, between a likelihood of initial [or] sustained success based on the novelty of your portfolio.”

The new insights could help artists from a variety of fields better understand the public impact of novelty in art — in music, visual art, books and beyond.

To figure out if there's some kind of formula that can help explain who becomes a flash in the pan and who becomes a musical staple, Berg focused on the pop charts, with their rich collection of data. “I figured I'd start with the industry ... where the term one-hit wonder was coined,” he says.

Berg used a database of about 3 million songs from 1959–2010 released by record labels that had produced at least one hit in the United States over that time. Of those songs, nearly 25,000 landed on the weekly *Billboard Hot 100*, which tracks the most popular songs based on sales data, radio play and now online streaming. That provided Berg with a list of nearly 4,900 artists who had one or more songs that made the list, his yardstick for defining a hit.

Berg then turned to a Spotify system that rates songs on 11 variables, including danceability, energy and key. This system provided metrics on most of the hits and nonhits from the 1959–2010 time window. Berg then noted how closely related hit songs were to the hits from the previous calendar year. He

also compiled portfolios for most of the artists who had at least one song on the Hot 100, so he could quantify the variety and novelty of the songs they had released at the time of their first hit. These portfolios also allowed him to compare one-hit wonders to mega-hitmakers and to those who never made it big.

Hits are rare, the data show. Of the 69,000 artists in the original database, 93 percent never had a hit, 3 percent had one and 1 percent had two hits. The success rate for additional hits drops from there.

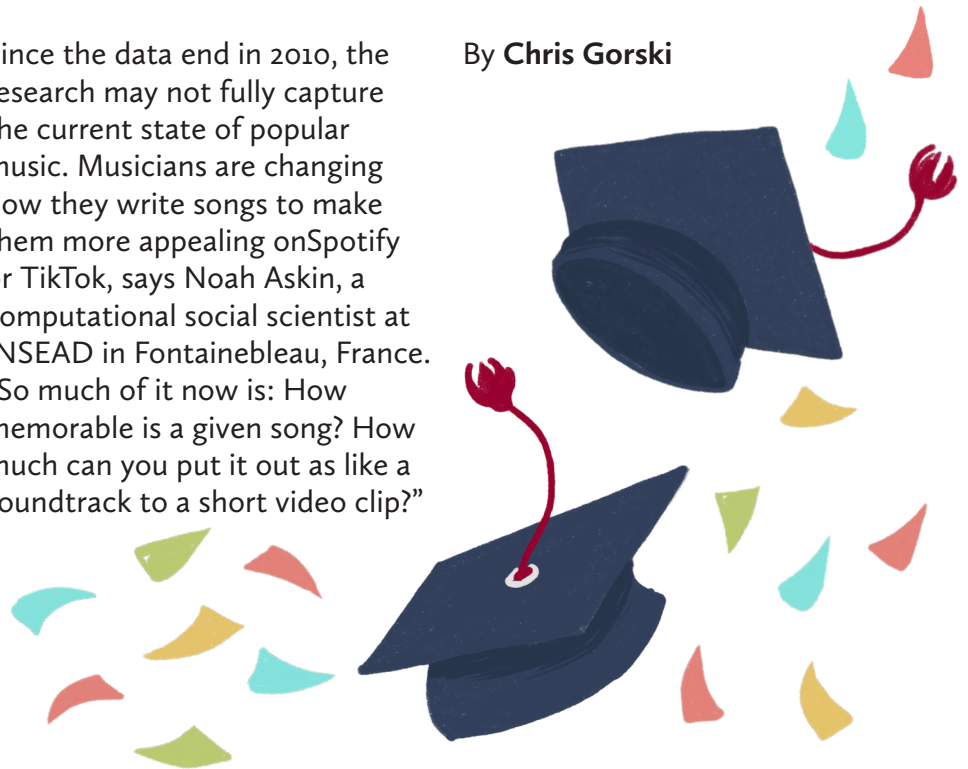
Berg found that musical artists with what he termed low-novelty portfolios that closely resembled other already existing music were about twice as likely to have initial success. But those who built a more innovative and varied catalog before fame hit were more likely to generate a series of hits.

“It’s a music nerd’s dream to read something like this,” says Storm Gloor, a music industry researcher at the University of Colorado Denver. He says it puts some heft behind a lot of the intuition that artists and record executives have developed over the years.

Since the data end in 2010, the research may not fully capture the current state of popular music. Musicians are changing how they write songs to make them more appealing on Spotify or TikTok, says Noah Askin, a computational social scientist at INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France. “So much of it now is: How memorable is a given song? How much can you put it out as like a soundtrack to a short video clip?”

Berg doesn’t want his research to diminish the accomplishments of one-hit wonders such as Los Del Rio, who recorded the 1990s smash “Macarena.” “A lot of them in their time were quite famous and successful,” he says. “You go out and try to make a song that catchy. It’s not an easy challenge.”

By **Chris Gorski**



Los Del Rio performing Macarena



Photographs from around School



IB student Rakhman hard at work



One of the gorgeous murals painted by Ms Amina this year



Mrs Fraser and Ms Swann (aka the Mad Hatter) on World Book Day





Haileybury Astana

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