

# Past, present and future...

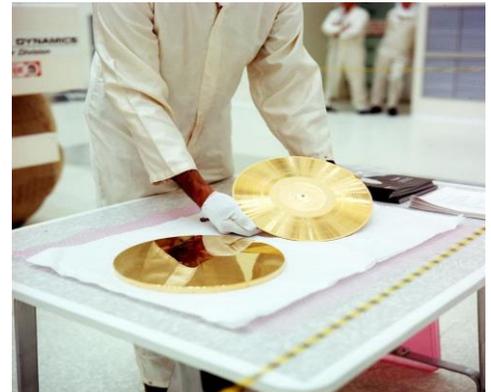
Humanity's obsession with knowledge in three different articles

You change  
 the world  
 by being  
 yourself

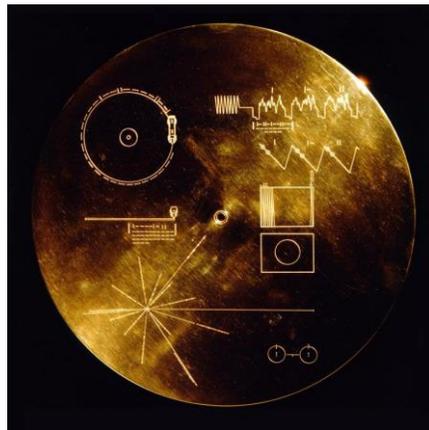
## A Crash-Course to Humanity in Space

Renata Lopez, 11GE

If you had to explain to an alien what humanity is, what would you tell them? Would you play them your favorite song? Or perhaps you would take them on tour and show them our most important and historical landmarks. How would you communicate to them the complex system that we have built as a society? NASA engineers took it upon their hands to create *the ultimate mixtape* or as they called it, The Golden Record. The record itself is made of gold-plated copper, with an electroplated aluminum cover, ensuring its short lifespan of 4.468 billion years, according to engineers at NASA. That's longer than any of us will live to tell; in fact, scientists predict that the floating rock in space we call home, will likely have become inhabitable for a few hundred million years before The Golden Record perishes.



- Yoko Ono



encountering another solar system and potential life to retrieve them. To this day, NASA updates the Voyagers' status, which you can check out by visiting <http://www.nasa.gov/voyager>. What would your crash-course to humanity look like? Let us know!

This dining plate-sized record holds 155 images, 27 songs, 22 pre-recorded sounds, and a series of *Greetings to the Universe* in 55 different languages. Mathematical definitions, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and the sound of thunder are just some of the many featured contents in this record.

The project was launched in 1977, attached to Voyager 1 and 2. The Voyagers have since traveled beyond our solar system and into interstellar space. Moving at a speed of around 16 kilometers per second, The Golden Record will continue to travel for many more years before

•	= 1	= 1	--	= 12		
••	= 1-	= 2	---	= 24		
•••	= 11	= 3	-- --	= 100 = 10 <sup>2</sup>		
••••	= 1--	= 4	- ---	= 1000 = 10 <sup>3</sup>		
•••••	= 1-	= 5	2+3=5			
••••••	= 11-	= 6	8+17=25	5 + $\frac{2}{3}$ = $5\frac{2}{3}$		
		= 7	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{5}{6}$	2 x 3 = 6		
	---	= 8	$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} = \frac{8}{15}$	13 x 28 = 364		
	--	= 9				
	-	= 10				

## HAY OR NEIGH? EXTINCT HORSES BACK FROM THE DEAD

Every once in a while, it is uplifting to take a step back and take a look at some of the greatest feats (or hooves) of science. The horse in the photo is Kurt, a newborn Przewalski's horse. Kurt was born on August 6, 2020 after a long string of scientific genius that begun almost forty years ago. In the eighties, DNA samples were taken from Kuporovic -Kurt's dad- in hopes of preserving it for when cloning technology was good enough for replantation. At the time there was no evidence that the genetic injection would work, but that did not stop Kurt Benirschke from founding the Frozen Zoo. The baby horse was named in his honor. The Przewalski's horse is believed to have been completely eradicated in the wild for well over half a century now. Around two thousand of them are still alive but are held in captivity. Some good news is that Przewalski's horses are being reintroduced back into the wild in places like China and Mongolia. Kurt has since been moved to the San Diego Zoo. San Diego Zoo's Oliver Rider promoted the controversial cloning technology:



“A central tenet of the Frozen Zoo, when it was established by Dr. Benirschke, was that it would be used for purposes not possible at the time.” said Oliver Ryder, director of genetics at San Diego Zoo Global.

Cloning technology and related fields such as CRISPR are still in their infancy stages and should be handled with care. Small environmental changes can cause a butterfly effect wiping out other species in the process. However, the benefits of gene editing may outweigh the downsides in the long term. Still, much is left to time and future Nobel Prize winners to decide.

Kourosh Zarei, g11

## SCHOOL NEWS

*A week ago, the student leadership team for the year 2020-2021 was announced; Standing as president is grade 11 student Renata Lopez, a 16-year-old visionary with big ideas to better the school. At her side is vice president Kourosh Zarei, and accompanying them are the social officers Ghena Radi and Khadija Abdullahi, the wellbeing officer Ridaa Rahman, the academic officer Amin Rashad and the sports officer Danil Kim. If you have any enquiries, questions or ideas, let any of them know through teams or email!*

## Why Sustainable Fashion Matters

The fashion industry is one of the biggest industries in the world and is worth over 278.2 billion dollars. Developing and growing every single day, the world now consumes about 80 billion new pieces of clothing every year. As new clothing comes into our lives, it gets thrown out too in a shocking pace. In 2014, an estimated 92 million tons of textile waste was created annually from the fashion industry.

The clothes you wear matter, yet most people have never thought about what the fabric in their favorite shirt is made of, or who made their clothes. They're important questions and they really do make a difference. Unfortunately, the fashion industry has traditionally had, and still has, an enormous negative impact upon the planet and not a great history looking after the people in the supply chain. Annually, the fashion industry creates more CO2 emissions than all international flights and maritime shipping worldwide, which really shows how negative an impact it has.

Now, you may ask yourself "what is sustainable fashion?". 'Sustainable' fashion refers to garments that have been made in a way that is mindful of the many environmental issues the fashion industry touches upon. It is about producing clothes, shoes and accessories in way that won't harm the environment and minimizes the impacts on the environment. It's also about sustainable patterns of consumption and use, for example people who quickly throw out clothes and buy new ones are not consuming sustainably.

Some garments made in a mindful way include sustainably grown fiber crops or recycled materials, using natural resources efficiently and carefully, and opting for renewable energy resources when it's possible. Raw, virgin materials like cotton and wool are becoming scarce just like all the other natural resources. These are the fabrics that can be recycled and decomposed. When fashion designers and brands start to think about how their clothing will continue after the customer has left it, they're creating a sustaining structure where we can continue to use these materials. Moreover, you have to check where your clothes are made, as to lower our carbon footprint we have to make clothes locally. Sustainable brands often use materials from natural or recycled fabrics that require less to no chemical treatment, little water, less energy and no fertilizers or pesticides to grow. This is a benefit to rivers, since most of the waste is dumped into rivers.

Some popular fast fashion brands like Zara recently announced that all of its collections will be made from 100% sustainable fabrics before 2025. By 2025, 80% of the energy consumed in Zara's headquarters, factories and stores will be from renewable sources and its facilities will produce zero landfill waste, the company said. By 2023, it promised, the viscose used will also be 100% sustainable. That is amazing news which hopefully other fast fashion brands will follow.

However, this also depends on us, meaning that we need to take responsibility for our daily choices. Commit to buying less, limit your outfits per day, and invest in pieces that last longer. For example, my grandma who is 67 years old has never once thrown out her old clothes or her children's clothes. She kept them and kept them in good condition, she passed these clothes on to us and we wear them, that is sustainable, and although small, she still has made a big difference by not throwing out the clothes.

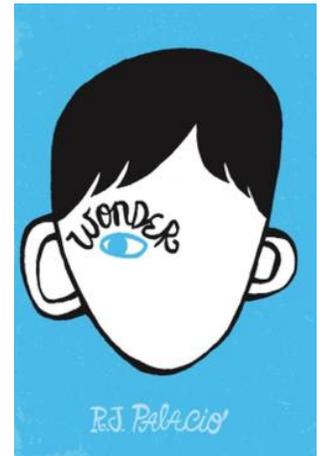
There are many ways that YOU can be sustainable in fashion for example: Up-cycle your old clothes (it's fun and the results can be satisfying), donate your unwanted clothes, look after your clothes so they last longer, go for quality over quantity, or thrift shop (it's fun and has low carbon footprint compared to new clothes that have traveled across the globe to get to you.) You are the future.

## MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

DP students look away you have homework to do

### Book of the month: Wonder, RJ Palacio

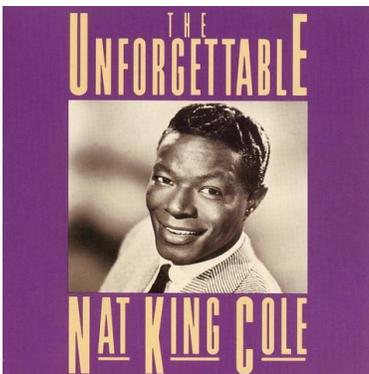
Wonder was first published in 2012 by RJ Palacio, an American author. It has been a New York Times best seller for over 5 years in a row. It is a fictional book, but the main character was inspired by someone who the author met in real life. The story is about a 10-year-old boy named Auggie Pullman who has a severe facial deformity. He had be home schooled his entire life up until he started grade 5 at Beecher Prep. All he wants is to be treated and seen like everyone else, but his classmates have trouble getting past his face. Wonder starts from Auggies point of view but as the chapters progress it switches to include the perspectives of his older sister and her boyfriend, his classmates and others. This allows us to see how this community struggles with differences and challenges its readers to understand the true value of kindness, acceptance and friendship. Auggie, despite going through many challenges in his life, proves in the end that “you can’t blend in when you were born to stand out.”



I highly recommend this book to anyone, it is the perfect comfort book, it’ll make you laugh and it’ll make you cry. Most importantly it will teach you empathy, Wonder is truly about not judging a book by its cover. I loved the switch of perspectives as it truly helped you understand Auggie’s story. It is perfect for any age as we get different points of view from many ages.

Róisín Boucher, g11

### Song of the month: Smile, Nat King Cole



In the past year, the world has become a mess and our lives have been turned upside down because of a situation in which we have no choice but to sit and wait for the professionals to find a solution for the problem. However, until that happens, we must be patient, do our part to solve the issue, and have hope that things will go back to normal soon. Nevertheless, having hope might be hard to do sometimes. That’s why I wanted to recommend this song, “Smile” by Nat King Cole (1954). It’s an iconic and well-loved classic by the jazz legend with lyrics that remind you to have hope when it gets hard to do so. The singer urges you to “Smile though your heart is aching, smile even though it’s breaking...” with the message that things will get better and all we have to do is smile.

Dear reader,

We are vast. As a species, we're immense. From thousands of years in the past, and lasting until the not so near future, we have been obsessed with safeguarding our common knowledge. In addition to that, we always have wanted to go faster, further, find new things to dissect and add to our growing, collective data bank. This newsletter's edition is dedicated to that; To us; To our thirst of memories, of science, of the future and the present.

My name is Cam, and I'm a grade eleven student. Just like everyone else, I want to know. Know of our past, our possible future paths, how to support the present; So I proudly present to you, dear reader, the first edition of the DP newsletter. Feel free to leave feedback with any of the writers, or myself. Do also contact me if you want to be featured here, whether it be through an article, a picture you've taken or an advertisement for tutoring or CAS projects.



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*Credits:*

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