

Student Reporter



Sophie Kwon

Grade 9
St. Mary's College Preparatory
High School

HYBE's Mistreatment of BTS, Is it Okay?



BTS in a billboard advertisement in Times Square. [Source: Author, Sophie Kwon]

BTS is currently setting unprecedented records that will remain in the history of K-pop and now stands as an international icon, promoting Korean culture and history to the world. BTS became the first Korean band to top Billboard's main single chart 'Hot

100'. They also made history as the first Korean group to present at the GRAMMYS and be nominated for a K-pop act. Also, if BTS releases an album as a whole in June, they will set a record as the first group in the K-pop industry to release an album every year without having changed members for 10 years. It stands to reason that they deserve the right treatment. However, recent events seem to be far from that.

Military service is considered a very important and sensitive issue in Korea. Therefore, the approval and achievements of the National Assembly are required for military exemption. While the issue of military service arose due to the promotion of BTS' national prestige, their agency, HYBE, expressed their intentions for a quick conclusion to eliminate the uncer-

tainty. After this remark, which aroused a lot of antipathy, BTS was brought to a press conference, which was not originally scheduled, and improvised just before going to their concert stage in Los Angeles. BTS, who were even wearing their stage costumes, stood without knowing the circumstances, and the oldest member responded only in principle, saying that they were in the same position as the company. Because of this, the public, unaware of the circumstances and only hearing that BTS had the same ideas as HYBE, misunderstood, thinking that the members were unwilling to go serve in the army and were delaying going to the military. Regardless of the worsening of public opinion, which used to be favorable to BTS, their agency HYBE directed the criticism towards the artist, not the company. They

passed the responsibility related to the military service issue to the members and did not send out corrections despite the image of BTS being damaged.

Due to this unfortunate incident, ARMYs, the BTS fan club, felt that this problem needs a fundamental solution. In addition, it can be seen that BTS needs better treatment from the management company in the progress of the webtoon industry, even though the members have been opposed to it for a year, and the content reduction in order to reduce the dependence on BTS, which accounts for a high percentage of the company's profits. Apart from this, the members of BTS are great people who are always humble and hard-working, so I hope they will continue to be successful and spread love with their music.

Student Reporter



Harmonia Kim

Grade 11
New Covenant Academy

Love Languages

How do you express your love? You may have never noticed, but everyone has their own unique way of doing this. Even the nonchalant ones who don't like to show affection and shy away from lovey-dovey forms of fondness have their own way of expressing love. Expressing your love can come in different forms, ranging from apathetic acts of service to warm-hearted times of physical touch. Everyone's love language is different, and that is a definite thing as everyone's experiences are different.

The main five types of love languages are physical touch, receiving and giving gifts, acts of service, quality time, and words of affirmation. Everybody has their type of love language, and your love language doesn't have to be only one of them. You can have several love languages, and the ways you express them can be unique.



Gift-giving is a common love language. [Source: Author, Harmonia Kim]

First off, finding out your love language is beneficial in figuring out how you express your love to others, therefore aiding in human relationships, mostly in romantic relationships. In close relationships like these, we have moments where we enjoy a lot of our time, but there are also moments when we are confused by each other's actions. When speaking in the context of romantic relationships,

it is crucial to know your love language and your partner's love language. When you are aware of both, you can prevent times of misinterpretation where you or your partner is unaware of each other's intentions and ways love is expressed.

For example, say your love language is acts of service, while your partner's love language is physical touch. You like to express your love by doing the dishes, helping them out with projects, fixing things for them – anything that you can do for them. However, your partner likes to express their love by spending time with you, holding hands, and hugging. When you and your partner are unaware of how each of you express your love, miscommunication, and misinterpretation can happen. You may wonder why your partner never does any acts of service for you, and your partner may won-

der why you don't show as much physical affection as them. This develops issues in your relationship, creating the need to be aware of each other's love languages.

Apart from romantic relationships, this scenario with being aware of one another's love language can be applied to any type of relationship. For example, it can be applied to relationships with friends, family, colleagues, and so much more.

Figuring out your own love language is simple. Think about what you appreciate doing for others you care for and what you like to receive from them. Are you someone who likes to give kind words, or are you someone who likes to buy gifts and receive gifts? If you can't point a finger at what you lean toward, quizzes online can always help you. Try taking one and figure out your love language!

Student Reporter



Kaylyn L. Yu

Grade 7
Juniper Christian School

Experiences at the Recently Grand Opened LEGOLAND Korea Resort

After about a wait of 11 years, Legoland Korea Resort has finally opened its doors on May 5, 2022, Children's Day for Korea. The theme park is in Chuncheon, Gangwon-Do, and is filled with different attractions for lego lovers. The resort includes a Legoland Hotel to provide an easy stay for visitors. Separated into seven categories, Legoland Korea allows visitors to explore the Lego Ninjago World, Lego Castle, Bricktopia, Brick Street, Pirate Shores, Lego City, and Miniland. Each section of the amusement park focuses on distinct parts of the lego world, with their own uniqueness. There is also a cinema in Bricktopia, where visitors can watch short shows and movies. Legoland lastly offers numerous gift shops to buy lego merchandise, including the Big Shop, the largest one of them.

Unfortunately, the whole creation was reduced from the original plans due to an unexpected discovery of historical sites while under construction. The water park design was canceled, and the resort

itself dwindled from its initial size.

After visiting during Legoland's pre-opened days, which began on April 2 on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, I interviewed a couple of people who went. I first asked my brother—Kaleb Yu, an elementary school third-grader—his opinion of the resort. I asked him especially since he had been to Legoland in Carlsbad, California before, so his interview answers were affected by what he experienced. Kaleb mentioned that the activities were creative, but he believed they were a little childish, even for him as a third grader. He said, "I was expecting more because I've been to other Legolands before. In California, the rides were still thrilling for me, and there were more choices. Carlsbad's Legoland was a lot bigger, with an aquarium and water park too. It's not perfect, but I wish there was more entertainment that wasn't just for younger kids."

Next, I talked to So Yean Lim, an adult Legoland guest, about her thoughts. So Yean stated that she



Legoland Korea Resort has finally opened its doors on May 5, 2022, Children's Day for Korea. [Source: Author, Kaylyn Yu]

loved the amusement itself, but she was especially amazed at the Miniland, saying it captured Korea's main landmarks in each province fantastically, and its details with legos were alive. When asked if she would recommend the park to others, she replied, "It's worth it as a one-time trip, but I'm not sure I'd buy a season pass. It's definitely for younger generations that love legos."

My personal opinion is that the resort is well made, but I agree with the interviewees; the attractions were mainly focused and designed for younger visitors and lego fans. I

guess it made sense that everything was focused on younger children since some other amusement parks in Korea, such as Lotte World Adventure and Everland, are built for kids, but largely entertain teens and adults. Sadly, a couple of entertainments weren't available when I visited, as it was still pre-opened. As a teenager, I'm not certain I'll pay another visit because it is a little childish for me, but I'll be sure to recommend it to toddlers and kids around me. Despite both negative and positive points, I enjoyed the experience of visiting Legoland Korea Resort overall and felt honored at the chance to preview it.

Student Reporter



Minseo Kwon
Grade 9
Portola High School

Pacific Coast League Finals...Who Came Out on Top?



Portola High School's track and field team pose after a team meeting to celebrate their first time as the boy's league champions. [Source: Author, Minseo Kwon]

For months, the track teams in the Pacific Coast League, PCL, have been training hard to prepare for the league finals. Hundreds of athletes worked tirelessly to achieve their personal records and outrun their opponents. Whether they practiced their jumping, hurdling, throwing, or running skills, everyone put their blood, sweat, and tears into training. Throughout the season, each school attempted to show off its abilities and estab-

lish dominance. On April 29, all of the seven schools that are a part of the PCL came to Portola High School with their best athletes to compete for the league title. Needless to say, this year's final meet was the most competitive yet.

The track meet began at 5 P.M. with the 4x100 relays. The fastest girls and boys in each division raced in teams of four to finish a lap around the track. Most teams swift-

ly passed the baton from one hand to the other, while some teams could not and were disqualified. The long-distance runners ran four to eight laps around the field non-stop. Their legs quivered as they struggled to finish the 1600 meters and 3200 meters. During the hurdle races, some, unfortunately, knocked over a few hurdles, slowing down their speed. Others briskly leaped over the high hurdles and made their way to the finish line.

In the field events, long and triple jumpers patiently waited in line for their turn. At full speed, they sprinted and jumped into the sand pit as far as they could. High jumper took turns trying to clear the bar at different heights. They jumped vertically as high as they could and strategically curved their backs at the right moment. Throwers were not forgotten during the meet and

used their arm strength to throw the discus as far as they could.

At 9:30 P.M. the 4x400 relays started. All athletes and coaches gathered around at the finish line to cheer their teams on. Athletes participating in this event shook off their nerves and ran their fastest without slowing down. Cheers exploded from the crowds as this was the last chance to gain points for their school. When the relay came to an end, the officials totaled the points to find the league champions of 2022. For the girls, Beckman won with a score of 138 points with Portola close behind with 107 points. On the boy's side, Beckman and Portola were tied with a score of 119 points. However, after adding points from other meets, Portola was declared this year's league champions. What a great end to the track and field season!

Student Reporter



Thomas Lee
Grade 10
Cleveland High School

3 BEST Ways To Study For Your Upcoming Finals

As many say, one's high school career is one of the most crucial times of their life; a time where students spend most of their day studying. Standardized tests and final subject exams all require students to comprehend and analyze an extensive amount of information in a limited amount of time. Even though each person has their own studying etiquette, many struggle to have continuous effective study sessions. There are 3 practical studying tips you can start implementing in your studying habits this upcoming semester.

First, find the best location to study. Finding a place where you can solely concentrate on your studies for more than 3 hours is the primary step. Students have difficulty comprehending subjects as efficiently as when they are in the best location, or take a longer time due to a lack of concentration.



This high school student studies for the upcoming SAT in a public library where she is able to focus well. [Source: Author, Thomas Lee]

Some people find adjacent cafes or public libraries the best, and others prefer to stay at home. However, if you are studying at home, be sure to find a place away from the bed and other people. Put on earbuds with light, calming music if you cannot find a place with a low noise level. If you prefer to study with friends, utilize the school library and its facilities, such as whiteboards and textbooks for a group study session.

Set a time constraint, but not with an actual timer. People set a specific time when to start and end studying, but many ruin the whole purpose of the schedule by extending or going past it. Ten minutes overtime will become 15, and 15 will become 2 hours in no time. The Pomodoro study method may help you work and manage your time wisely, but people have a hard time going back to studying after a break. If you are in a place where you can concentrate well enough, take a break only if you are exhausted and cannot read another word. Stay away from electronic devices and eat, stretch, or take a quick nap for about 10-15 minutes to help refresh yourself.

Another thing to do is to use all of your available material. We are privileged with the number of study resources that are open to us both online and offline. Por-

tals such as Mr. Sinn and Khan Academy go over specific subjects with step by step instructions and practice problems. There are also numerous versions of workbooks from different companies available for standardized testing. Research thoroughly to find the best version for you and utilize them until they are filled entirely with your annotations and highlights. Turn on study with me videos in the background, or find candies that will wake you up. Utilize whatever you can to motivate you in a challenging and tiring environment.

9 out of 10 people reading this most likely have searched up how to study for upcoming exams or ace them without actually having to study at least once in their lifetime. Not all 3 of these tips may work right away, but if you genuinely invest and dedicate time and effort to your studies, you will find your way soon.

Student Reporter



Lois Lee
Grade 9
Juniper Christian School

Negative Effects on the Child Due to the Pandemic

In 2019, Covid-19 cases were spreading through countries. Until recently, we still wear masks, and some students do online classes at their homes. Through the government's guidelines, most of the families needed to be in quarantine whenever they got the virus or when they were back from other countries. Moreover, students' education had gone down since 2020, when it got worse. This article is based on the negative effects on the child due to the pandemic.

Some countries are still undeveloped and poor. Adults are busy working or looking for a job, doctors are involved with their patients, and we can imagine how busy it will be, especially for the adults. Imagine a family whose parents are poor and the parents are looking for a job. Then who might take care of the children? What happens to the child's education? A child in a low-income family may have no access to the internet and extra help cannot be provided to the child. Some families may be able to provide an education, but most of the poorer

families have had problems with their finances. More than that, in 2020, approximately 150 million children were living in poverty due to the impact of the pandemic. They were without "internet, education, health care, housing, and even nutrition" stated UNICEF. Furthermore, around 214 million children globally have "missed more than three-quarters of their in-person learning." 188 countries have closed schools during the pandemic, affecting more than 1.6 billion children.

Due to the pandemic, students have lost basic numeracy and literacy skills. By saying numeracy skills, it means having an ability to play with numbers, and literacy skills being able to read and write. Most of the schools have changed the teaching curriculum from offline classes to online classes. Doing online classes has shown a lower performance in students' education. Through online classes, students might face temptation or laziness doing online classes rather than having offline classes.



Classmates having a class online in 2021 due to COVID-19. [Source: Author, Lois Lee]

Moreover, children less than eight years old have been showing slow learning in the educational system. Due to the pandemic, they might have skipped the semester or even had changed their curriculum to homeschooling.

From people wearing masks, young babies also have a hard time developing. One of the ways children have had a hard time is because of the mask. Since wearing masks does not show facial expressions, children have a hard time recognizing others' faces and have a quite hard time showing "their" own facial expressions.

Here in South Korea, we still need to wear a mask indoors, but masks outdoors are not recommended since May 2nd. When this law was released, a lot of people enjoyed and were happy; being able to have no mask outdoors. From my own experience, when our class went outdoors to ride the bicycle, we saw many people not wearing masks and enjoying their time. Through this three years pandemic, children have lost their education and a chance to meet people face to face. Having no mask and no pandemic could also resolve the problem of children's education.