**SLOWS THE SPREAD**

COVID-19 FROM A BIOMEDICAL STANDPOINT

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**Q&A**

Ms. Jennifer Gordinier

Mr. Andrew Schwartz

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**Q&A**

What are some important things to practice in order to slow down the spread of this virus?

- "The virus spreads mainly from person to person via respiratory droplets. In addition, it can survive for multiple hours/days on surfaces, so it’s important to keep our hands clean and away from our face, and limit our exposure to people who may be infected by the virus."

Can people who are resistant to the virus still spread it to others?

- "Younger individuals with a stronger immune system may be asymptomatic when infected. A study out of China suggests the virus can persist in the body for at least two weeks after symptoms clearance."

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**Why is it difficult to initially diagnose people with COVID-19 rather than the common cold or flu?**

- "The initial challenge in diagnosing COVID-19 has been limited access to testing, as more readily available, nationwide diagnostic may be complicated by the diversity of symptoms individuals present with."

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**Can vaccines build someone’s immunity against the virus?**

- "Vaccines initiate a rapid immune response that protects the person from contacting the disease upon secondary exposure to the antigens because it has already programmed antibodies to attack."

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**A RECAP OF SPRING 2020**

The virus is primarily spread through droplets in the air from sneezing and coughing. Between a few days to two weeks, there are very little symptoms like a severe flu, common symptoms of COVID-19 include cough, fever, weakness, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, and even pneumonia in severe cases. People can seem asymptomatic for up to two weeks after being exposed while still being able to infect others. This caused the rapid spread of the disease and a spike in confirmed cases after people continued to socialize after being infected and undermined to them, spread the disease. Scientists and medical workers are still searching for a vaccine at this point.
**THE EFFECTS OF A**

**GLOBAL PANDEMIC**

**GOING VIRTUAL**

**CAMPUS CLOSURES CAUSED TRANSITION TO DISTANCE LEARNING**

On Friday March 13, Pine Crest announced its campus closure for distance learning. Originally scheduled to reopen April 14, the date was later pushed to May 14. For three weeks prior to the announcement, teachers and faculty underwent training to handle the transition into distance learning.

“Our Educational Technology department did an outstanding job preparing our teachers and offering assistance through Schoology and other educational technology resources,” Upper School Head Mr. Joseph Walters said. “Our teachers and counselors did not miss a beat, and we were able to transition to distance learning seamlessly.”

Thousands of schools across the globe followed a similar process to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, closures affected 99% of the world’s school population. Teachers throughout all grades and upper school guidance for the resources that made distance learning possible. “It’s really, really lucky to be able to continue teaching and to help our students feel connected and engaged and to continue learning,” Lower School teacher Ms. Katy Kessel said.

Under the guidelines of self-isolation recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, students engaged in online classes and assignments via Zoom and Schoology. “I miss my teachers and my classmates, but one of the advantages of it is that you get to be in class with all the different students in their class, so you get to hear from people you wouldn’t have if we were still in normal school,” Alex Bernatow 20 said.

Aside from the uneasiness of the ever-changing situation, students, faculty, and administrators alike tried to use this situation as a positive learning experience. “I think this situation is helping us realize how truly blessed we are to be at such an amazing school,” Upper School art teacher Ms. Ashley Porter said. “Our school community has really been lifting each other up.”

**FINE ARTS EVENTS COME TO A PAUSE, BUT NOT AN END**

FINE arts events come to a pause, but not an end. words by Emma Resende

COVID-19 caused the closure of Broadway shows, art museums, and Upper School performances.

On March 12, Broadway announced that it would be going dark for the foreseeable future, scheduling a tentative return for April 12. The closing of the theaters hit many hard as Broadway is often seen as a light in dark times.

Musicians all around the world turned to online performances as well. Performers live streamed concerts to uplift spirits. At schools across the country, the disruption of Fine Arts led to difficulties for student-musicians.

“It is unfortunate because we don’t have enough practice as a whole and our progress is definitely going to be stunted,” Alyssa Wasserman ‘22 said.

While band, orchestra and chorus students could no longer practice and perform together, the Fine Arts department stayed connected through Zoom rehearsals and recordings.

**DAYS OF OUR LIVES: Quarantine Altered Our Daily Routine**

Throughout the nation, schools and universities closed indefinitely, most of which shifted to an online platform.

Workspaces closed, and while some worked from home, others lost their jobs. During Spring Break, distance learning practices became the norm. In a survey filled out by 164 students and 21 teachers, here is how quarantine affected their daily lives.

words by Marlie Kahan / design by Olivia Pettee

**FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME**

CORONAVIRUS PLACES INDEFINITE SUSPENSION ON ATHLETICS words by Chelsea Thompson

The world of athletics confronted many changes, especially for student-athletes. Words by Donna Black and IOC under Creative Commons and Public Domain license

2020 Tokyo Olympics faced a postponement during peacetime since the creation of the modern Olympics. The competition is now set for July 2021.

Spring sports nationwide experienced a cancelation of their seasons. The NCAA suspended all spring collegiate athletic activities, including championships, in order to protect the health of athletes, as well as mitigate the potential impact of the virus. High school students globally also had their seasons terminated. For many senior athletes, sports they had spent their lives playing were canceled right before their final season.

“The impact of the coronavirus has been huge on our track season,” Maya Beloza ‘20 said. “While our team is highly motivated, and we do workouts on our own, it has been very difficult to deal with this setback.”

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HEALTH over WEALTH?

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the economic health of the United States, along with most global markets, took major losses, including a rapid plunge in the stock market and an expected recession, leading to a bipartisan fiscal stimulus package.

The prices of major indexes, notable collections of stocks, dipped significantly with the S&P 500 down 18.5% as compared to the rest of 2020 and NASDAQ down 12.7% as compared to the rest of 2020 on March 31. These losses can be explained by the loss of earnings caused by the shutdown and social distancing, which kept markets from adjusting the valuations of most companies, paired with rapid selling, as investors panicked to sell their stocks in case of bankruptcy, and buyers of buying as investors looked for the lowest prices. Stock market crashes are particularly harmful to the economy as a whole since many people look to the financial markets as a source of income, so the stock market’s decline means people who would otherwise spend their money and stimulate the economy cannot.

Additionally, the economy faced the risk of a recession, caused by the decreases in spending from social distancing, the stock market crash as well as the interruption of supply chains from China. The government took action to help prevent or lessen the effect of the coming recession through both monetary and fiscal policies. This bipartisan solution included a decrease in the federal funds rate set by the Federal Reserve, which stimulated spending, and a bipartisan economic stimulus bill signed on March 27, which consisted of direct payments to citizens, aid to affected businesses and help for local and state governments, endorsed by Owens Leaver. Photos courtesy of Maria Abbala, Daniel James Wynyard &设计 by Crestdian Staff.

IN THE WORDS OF Mr. Andrew Kashdan

“Clearly we are already in recession, and the downturn will be quite severe. It just hasn’t appeared in most of the economic data yet. This stoppage in economic activity is unprecedented in modern history, the brightside is that there could be a rapid recovery.”

INDEXES

STOCKS: a share of a particular company held by an individual or a group
INDEXES: a subset of the stock market that helps investors compare market prices with earlier prices
RECESSION: a business cycle contraction where there is a decline in economic activity, usually paired with unemployment, deflation or inflation

CORONAVIRUS TAKES A TOLL ON THE ECONOMY

The improving air quality has been of emissions over a two week period. Historically high levels of air pollution have reached their lowest point in 2020 compared to other years, proving to be beneficial, estimated to save around 75,000 lives of both children and the elderly.

But on the BRIGHTSIDE

In the past couple of years, high demand for water travel in the canals in Venice, Italy has resulted in increasing levels of pollution, however after the country imposed mandatory lockdown for its citizens, the water turned noticeably clearer.

As the shutdown and social distancing efforts, and members of Congress have worked to create laws to give and to those affected.

IN THE WORDS OF Mrs. Trish Everett

“This current pandemic is definitely causing a lot of uncertainty and particularity in American politics. Since it is an election year, it means that all major campaigns are going to have to throw out tried-and-true strategies that they are familiar with. It’s much of campaigning is holding rallies/fundraisers, how does one campaign successfully while social distancing?”

15 STATES HAVE POSTPONED THEIR PRIMARY ELECTIONS AS A RESULT OF THE PANDEMIC

Reported as of April 3, 2020

THE RESPONSES TO A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

COVID-19 BRINGS UNEXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Countries such as China with historically high levels of air pollution have reached their lowest point in years, experiencing a 25% decrease of emissions over a two week period. The improving air quality has been proven to be beneficial, estimated to save around 75,000 lives of both children and the elderly.

& in THE WHITE HOUSE

Primary elections in at least 15 states originally scheduled for Spring and Summer 2020 were postponed to satisfy the CDC’s social distancing recommendations. Florida did not postpone their primary, but faced issues with some citizens being unable to visit the polls and poll workers not showing up because of virus concerns.

Additionally, growing concern over the virus pandemic changed the course of the political sphere rapid spread placed legislators and politicians in unprecedented positions with difficult choices to be made on short notice, such as the enactment of stay-at-home orders. President Donald Trump created a task force to try and stop the disease from further affecting American citizens, appointing Vice President Mike Pence to lead the efforts, and members of Congress have worked to create laws to give and to those affected.

A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

AROUND THE WORLD

THE BRIGHTSIDE

The response to a global pandemic? the economy as a whole since many

IN THE WORDS OF

Maria Abbala & Phoebe Ducote