

# EPSOM MAGAZINE

HALF-TERMLY UPDATES

For epsomians by epsomians



TERM 1, ISSUE 1



### 3 INTRO TO EPSOM MAGAZINE

Established in 2017 by our brilliant founder Candace, The Epsom Magazine Society had been running exuberantly before it took a break in the previous academic year. This year, a group of passionate young individuals have taken on the challenge to rejuvenate the society! So, get to know our brand new Board Of Directors that have made this possible!

### 4-5 SCHOOL EVENTS

As a school, we are privileged enough to have a year-long series of enriching events that brings joy and adds to the quality of student life here in Epsom! And October has been a jam-packed month of activities and fun: with House Music, Colour Run, Halloween and more, read on to relive these memorable moments!

### 6 SPORTS UPDATES

Epsom is host to a myriad of budding athletes that never fail to impress and outdo themselves at every match and every game - making a name for not only themselves but the school as well! With the Mouratoglou Tennis Program, La Liga and the Golf Academy, it is only fair that we showcase our brilliant athletes and the spectacular feats they have achieved time and time again.

### 7-10 GLOBAL EVENTS

The world is a forever changing place. As students, it is in our best interest to have an awareness of current affairs in order to develop a better understanding of the world we live in. Read on to find out more about headlining issues today.



# Introduction to the Epsom Magazine

## WELCOME TO THE 2024-2025 TEAM



## Meet the Board of Directors

### Jun Hong Goh - President

Hi, my name is Jun Hong, and I'm the President of the Epsom Magazine! I work together with our incredible Board of Directors to ensure high-quality, engaging work. I've been a writer for the Epsom Magazine since 2022, and with that experience, I am here to provide us students with a reliable, quick, and simple way to stay informed about the highly anticipated events in our school and current affairs.

A little bit about myself: I enjoy staying informed about current affairs and how they affect us. Whether it's world news, crime journalism, or entertainment, I find it all fascinating and valuable in providing me insight into the world. I'm excited to share that passion with you through our magazine and give you the best experience you can possibly receive while reading it. I hope you enjoy

### Stephanie Khong - Vice President

Hi all! My name is Stephanie and I am the 2024-2025 Vice President of Epsom's revamped Magazine Society! It is my honour to be able to help make this happen and bring my vision for the school magazine to life. To me, being involved means sharing the stories and highlights of Epsom life with our community. My role is to contribute my skills and enthusiasm to enhance the reading experience of our magazines and make them a true reflection of our school culture.

About me! I am currently in year 11, some hobbies of mine include painting, baking and sewing. I know they don't directly relate with being a magazine society member, but I do believe that I will be able to use my love for arts to create a magazine that people will enjoy. I hope you enjoy this half term's magazine!

### Mei Jie Tiew - Global Editor

Hello! My name is Tiew Mei Jie and I am the Global Editor alongside Justina for Epsom Magazine Society. I am in charge of the global section of the magazine, deciding global topics such as politics, culture, recent events and more. This magazine allows us to discuss and explore these important and interesting issues, making us more aware of our world.

I am currently in year 12 - taking math, further math, economics and history. Although I am not good at my subjects, I have an interest in learning and deepening my understanding of each subject. Before joining Epsom this September, I was a ballet dancer of 13 years and unfortunately had to quit. However, I still keep myself active with netball and running. Besides being global editor, I am the Co-President of the Media Society.

### Justina Wong - Global Editor

Hi! My name is Justina and I am one of the Global Editors in Epsom's one and only Magazine Society! My role is to write, direct and bring light to current worldly news in an accurate and concise manner. The global team and editors write on politics, earth, innovations, culture and lots more. The magazine not only allows us to spread awareness on global events but also gives a sense of connection with the hectic and action-packed lifestyle we are accustomed to.

I am currently in year 11 and take Economics, Accounting and Music as my electives and although I spend a lot of time not revising for these subjects, I quite enjoy attending these classes and thoroughly learning about them as it gives me a deeper understanding on how things work and how I can apply it to other things outside of school. During my spare time, you can find me on the piano learning my favourite songs, movie soundtracks and duets to play with my friends later.

### Uzair Nizam - Arts Director

Hello! I'm Uzair, the new Epsom Magazine Art Director. This year, I'm thrilled to bring a fresh visual style and creative flair to each issue. Our team is working hard to make every page engaging and inspiring. I can't wait for you all to see what we have in store. I joined this society due to my interests in engagement with people in the community. Although my role may not be the best for this, I can still interact and receive feedback and ideas on what you, the reader may like to see on the next magazine!

Some personal insight into my hobbies: I enjoy spending my free time with my cats! I currently have 4 and I enjoy each and every one of their company.

### Annabel Rajah - Lead Editor

Hello! My name is Annabel and I am currently privileged to be holding the position of Lead Editor for the Epsom Magazine Society, this academic year! From a young age, I've always been intrigued with books — especially those encompassing tales of fantastical places and epic quests and authentic characters that allow me to venture into new worlds with just a flick of a few pages. In short, I'm incredibly fond of a good story! Like many others, this love of reading eventually opened up the door to writing. And after lots of practice, scrapped plots and definitely some tears, this led to me being able to publish my very own short story in a book back in 2022!

When I first came to Epsom, I really liked the concept of the Friday Flyer which not only provided informative weekly highlights but most importantly served as a platform for the student voice — something that was uncommon in my old school. And now with the Magazine Society, as Lead Editor, I hope to be able to showcase our student voice and perhaps ignite a love for writing in many others.

*Epsom Magazine Team*



# EPSOM EVENTS



By, ELIE LO

## House Music!!!

House music has always been my favourite house competition! This year, the pressure was immense: as someone who is competitive and passionate about house music. There was activity in Crawford to secure the trophy! I'm sure that all the year 13s especially were going crazy trying to make magic for a victory in their final year!

For Crawford, I would say that it didn't come together until about the last week. The song we chose for unison ("Forget you" - Glee Version) was especially challenging for most of the altos, as well as the fact that the song's melody is quite fast. But I'm glad that it all came together in the end. I think the energy and emotion of the song really came through in the performance, contributing to the visual entertainment. The journey of preparation was very tedious! We actually changed up the choreography in the last week as we thought it was boring, I'm glad it paid off because it was not projecting the vision previously. Overall, the unison was one of my favourite songs to perform during my 10 years at Epsom!



17th Oct, 2024

I wasn't involved in the Instrumental category but I thought that they did amazing!! I was so amazed that everytime they practiced, it just kept getting better!! I thought the song choice of "Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence" was fabulous.

On another note, Part song / acapella has always been my favourite category. This year, I took a leading role in organising the composition of Crawford's part song, "From The Start" by Laufey. This song was incredibly tricky as it follows a more complex 'Jazz' structure, the different parts were made from scratch and just listening to it over and over: it took about 2 weeks of just figuring out what the sections were! I'm very happy and proud of the team. I was completely blown away to work with people who were really passionate and eager, despite the stress of those late night practices. This was definitely my favourite and most memorable song of that night! (Not biased at all.)

I'm so happy to have Crawford win this time round and am looking forward to more in the future!!



By, ADIMUS HAIQAL

24th Oct, 2024

## Halloween Social

Halloween this year had a mix of engaging activities and subtle thrills. However, the real event started after dinner. Mr Brown started the night off with the ignition of the bonfire, which signified Guy Fawkes Day. Other than the amazing haunted house prepared by the prefect team, there were also students and parents holding stalls around the amphitheatre. Drinks were being sold in blood bags, cake pops decorated with Halloween designs, and there were even some games being played. The evening ended with a mesmerising firework display, capping off a memorable Halloween



By, STEPHANIE KHONG

21st Oct, 2024

## Colour Run

This year, Epsom hosted its very first Colour Run, in relation to Deepavali, the Festival of Lights. This was a vibrant, fun-filled event where participants ran a designated distance while being doused in colourful powders at various checkpoints. This activity helped students celebrate the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. Such as how Deepavali is celebrated with colourful decorations and joyous gatherings, this run managed to embody the festive spirit by bringing people together in a whirlwind of colour and enthusiasm, symbolising hope and unity within the community.



# EPSOM EVENTS

By, UZAIR NIZAM



## EPSOM Live Talk w DATO Lim Kian Onn

Dato' Lim Kian Onn, Chairman of the Board of Governors, joined us as a special guest on the Epsom Live Talk. He began by recounting his early days as an entrepreneur, reflecting on the opportunity to join Hong Leong Bank when it was still in its uprising and sharing his role in helping it grow into a prominent financial institution. He spoke openly about challenges he faced, including financial struggles and lack of resources. Dato' Lim also shared the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on his business, AirAsia X, detailing the financial losses and debts he faced during this difficult time. His stories of resilience and adaptability gave students powerful insights into learning the uncertainties of business and leadership.

## Mental Health Week

By, IAN LEE

### Meet the peer support team

Our peer support group, consisting of Ms Pajan, Ms Mali, Coco Watanabe, Stephanie Khong, Vincent Wong, Ethan Sankey, Hanon Matsumoto and Yufei Tian, have worked very hard to organise mental health week and they will continue to work hard to support the school's mental. If they're available, you can talk to them about difficult topics without facing any judgement from them as they try their hardest to put themselves in your shoes.

### MEET THE PEER SUPPORT TEAM 2024/2025

COCO WATANABE Year 11	STEPHANIE KHONG Year 12
VINCENT WONG Year 12	ETHAN SANKEY Year 10
HANON MATSUMOTO Year 9	YUFEI TIAN Year 9
MISS PAJAN Counsellor	MISS MALI JAMES-WILLIAMS Epsom Student

### Support Groups

Want to find out more in an information session with Ms Pajan & the Wellbeing Prefects?

**Tuesday 8/10 CCA**  
What: Learn more about Anxiety and Support for people suffering from it.  
Where: Pavilion (Snacks & Drinks Provided)  
When: 4:15-5:30 pm

**Wednesday 9/10 CCA**  
What: Learn more about Substance Addiction and recovery.  
Where: Pavilion (Snacks & Drinks Provided)  
When: 4:15-5:30 pm

**Thursday 10/10 CCA**  
What: Learn more about Self-Esteem.  
Where: Pavilion (Snacks & Drinks Provided)  
When: 4:15-5:30 pm

### Support groups

School life can often be rough on us students, which is why some students decided to practise mindfulness and solidarity at the three-day wellness sessions at the Pavilion at CCA time from Tuesday to Thursday. During these sessions, students were learning about a myriad of topics ranging from anxiety to substance addiction and self-esteem.



## Other events

As an eventful and action packed half-term has come to an end, we would like to appreciate the many activities that the school community has done to keep us entertained. Some of these events include the Deepavali stalls, decorations and assembly performances, open mic, where many students sought to display their musical talent as well as the many new prefects that helped organise these events, displaying their exceptional management skills



# Sports Updates



By, LEAH KIMURA

## U15 Football Girls KLSL

This October, the U15 girls won the KLSL tournament hosted here at Epsom. The girls played 4 matches in total against TISP, KH8, Beaconhouse and SIS. Throughout the matches, everyone on the team displayed great perseverance. Our defenders Ellie and Kaegan assisted Rachel in preventing any goals from getting in while our midfielders, Ee Xynn, Stephanie and Adriana assisted our strikers, Sofia and Ezra which led to the team winning three of the four games with the other being a draw.

Our morning started off bright and early at eight with our first match with Sunway. We started off good and continued to play well throughout the entirety of the tournament. Our next game was with King Henry, where our luck continued. We then played Taylors before finally playing Beaconhouse, where Sofia scored a hat trick and continued to score until the final whistle blew. We ended our day on a high, and were all extremely happy to have been able to win a tournament at home and have another trophy in our team's name.



By, JACK LAU

## 10th Anniversary U18 Volleyball Tournament

To mark the 10th anniversary of Epsom College in Malaysia, our school hosted a volleyball tournament, inviting teams from International School Kuala Lumpur, Oasis International School, and Charterhouse International School.

Our Over-15 Boys and Girls Volleyball squads, led by Mr Symeon and Mrs Miller, have demonstrated extraordinary teamwork, high quality skill, and sportsmanship as they all gave their best on the court and brought home an impressive victory for Epsom. A shout out goes to the coaches, staff members and sports council members who made this event as smooth as possible. Their efforts in scoring, organising, and overseeing the matches as linesmen were invaluable and ensured the tournament ran smoothly.

Congratulations to everyone involved for making this milestone event not only a celebration of our school's growth but also a showcase of our passion and ability in sports.



## Note from Diego Ramos Football Coach

As Technical Director, it's truly a privilege to witness our teams display such character and resilience on the field. The U18 Boys team showed an unbreakable fighting spirit, bouncing back from an initial 3-0 loss and achieving victory in a thrilling penalty shootout in the semifinals. This in-extremis win highlighted not only their resilience but also their mental strength in critical moments, culminating in their historic achievement of winning the tournament title for the first time in the school's history.

Similarly, the U15 Boys delivered an impressive performance in the semifinals, despite playing three-quarters of the match with one player down. Competing and ultimately winning under such challenging conditions speaks volumes about their commitment and competitive spirit.

I also want to recognize the efforts of the U15 Girls, who dominated much of their matches. Though we struggled with finishing this time around, their performance was commendable and reflects the tremendous potential they have. Congratulations to all teams for their determination and fighting spirit; we are seeing the results of the hard work and passion they put into every training session and every game. We will continue working to improve and reach new achievements together.



By, MUHAMMAD ADLAN BIN ADNAN

## Marlborough Straits 7s Champions

The Epsomians U18 boys started the kick off in the group stage with a desperate hunger in dominating all of the possessions, shots and skills throughout the whole gameplay which ended with a 1 - 0 calm match win against Raffles in their opening game phase. The U18 boys' captain, Adlan A. (CM), scored a spectacular free kick with an assist from Bruce D. (RM) which provided the U18 Epsom boys with their first goal of the tournament. The boys persevered and fought for a spot on top of the table against MCM, Raffles and KTJ in their group stage, in which they successfully qualified to the quarterfinals.

As the boys met Sunway in the quarterfinals, the game heated up as midfield battles were constant, the pressure exacerbated by the need for possession and the crowd was cheering passionately for their teams, raising the intensity to fever pitch. In spite of the intensity, Jacob L. (CB) kept his composure and protected Epsom's defence with a clean sheet, resulting in a 2 - 0 win.

The semifinal and final matches were true tests of endurance and mental toughness with players pushing through exhaustion to secure crucial points. The boys met the host team MCM Blues in a thrilling semi-final match. Epsom's battle for a spot in the final was held by a draw against MCM, which led to the penalties. The level of anxiety from both teams were significantly high, but Epsom's very own Tom D. (GK), managed to keep his hands stretched out, causing the opponent to shoot out wide. The Epsom boys were heading into the finals! The final match had fans on edge as both teams went head-to-head in a display of grit and sportsmanship. With only minutes left, a magnificent header from Luke F. and Adlan A. clinched Epsom the victory, erupting in celebration from players and fans alike. Epsom's U18 boys became the Champions of Marlborough Straits 7s for 2024/25.



# US ELECTIONS

## THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The 2024 U.S. Presidential Election is one of the most important elections in recent years, with Donald Trump and Kamala Harris competing for the nation's top office. Each candidate represents very different ideas for the future of America, and they're tackling key issues like inflation, abortion, and border security. Swing states, where neither party has a clear majority, will play a major role in deciding the election.

The election's outcome will likely depend on a few key swing states which are states that don't lean heavily Republican or Democrat. States like Pennsylvania, Michigan, Arizona, and Wisconsin are closely contested, with voters split on their choice for President. Trump is focusing on boosting jobs in the Midwest, while Harris is aiming to motivate young and minority voters in states like Arizona and Georgia. The candidate who can best appeal to undecided voters in these states may have a big advantage in the election.



## CONCLUSION

The 2024 election offers Americans two very different options for the future. Trump wants to bring back his policies from his time in office, focusing on a strong economy and conservative values. Harris aims to continue the Biden administration's work, pushing for progressive change in areas like social justice and healthcare. With major issues like inflation, abortion, and border security on the line, swing states will likely play a crucial role in deciding the next President. The choice Americans make will set the country's direction on important issues for years to come.



## DONALD J. TRUMP

Former President Donald J. Trump, the Republican candidate, is campaigning with the slogan "Make America Great Again". His main goals include tackling high inflation, boosting the economy, and securing the U.S. border. Trump believes that Biden's policies have caused inflation and have weakened the country. He wants to lower taxes, increase U.S. energy production, and focus on a stricter immigration policy. Trump's approach is to bring back the policies he had during his presidency, which he says will make the economy stronger and improve life for everyday Americans.

## KAMALA HARRIS

Kamala Harris, the current Vice President and the Democratic candidate, is focusing on issues like social justice, climate change, and healthcare access. Harris wants to build on the work of the Biden administration by addressing economic inequality and legalising abortion nationwide. She is also pushing for removal of the second amendment, gun rights and increased support for green energy. Harris hopes to bring in diverse voters and promises a more inclusive economy where everyone, including minorities benefits.





# DEATH OF LIAM PAYNE



Liam Payne, who shot to global fame with boy band One Direction, was found dead on October 16 after he fell from the third-floor balcony of Casa Sur hotel in Buenos Aires. The National Criminal and Correctional Prosecutor's Office No. 16 in Argentina announced in a press release on Thursday that the singer died from "polytrauma" and "internal and external haemorrhage". According to the autopsy, experts found 25 injuries that were compatible with those caused by a fall from a height.

In a 911 call, the hotel's reception head can be heard, in Spanish, calling for medical assistance for "a guest who is intoxicated by drugs and alcohol".

When the guest had been "conscious," he was "breaking the whole room," the hotel staff member also said on the 911 call. Police did indeed find substances in his hotel room, as well as several destroyed objects and furniture. According to a preliminary toxicology report published by the local press, Liam Payne had cocaine in his system.

A statement was added by the staff member after the operator confirmed the hotel's location. "We need you to send someone urgently because, well, I don't know if the guest's life is at risk. He has a room with a balcony. And, well, we are a little afraid that he will do something that will put his life at risk."

The Casa Sur hotel has now become a place for Liam Payne's fans to pay their respects with flowers, candles, and photos of the singer.







## What is going on in Africa?

Africa is undergoing a fascinating geological transformation: the formation of a new ocean. This phenomenon, highlighted by a 35-mile-long crack that opened up in Ethiopia in 2005, signals a shift in the continent's structure which changes Africa as we know it.

The crack, known as the Da'Ure Fisher, first appeared when the Dabbahu volcano erupted, spewing ash and lava that devastated the local landscape. This crack marks the beginning of the East African Rift System, an active continental rift zone that stretches over 6,000 kilometres from the Red Sea to Mozambique. Scientists believe this rift zone will ultimately divide the African continent, forming a new ocean over millions of years.

Africa's transformation is driven by tectonic activity between the Somali and Nubian plates, which are slowly moving apart. Beneath these plates, a large upwelling of hot rock from the Earth's mantle pushes against the crust, causing it to thin and crack. The East African Rift System is a result of these forces, with two primary branches stretching across multiple countries and giving rise to dramatic landscapes, such as Mount Kilimanjaro.

Scientists predict that, in about 5 to 10 million years, this rift could create a new ocean, giving countries like Uganda and Zambia coastlines. While the process is slow, its impact is monumental, and the Afar region provides a unique glimpse into this geological phenomenon. It's a rare opportunity to witness the birth of an ocean, a process that will continue to transform Africa and shape our planet's future.



## THE MENENDEZ BROTHERS

In a 1989 Beverly Hills mansion, Jose and Kitty Menendez laid as cold and frail corpses. They had been gruesomely shot 13 times in the back of the neck, arm and chest. The brutal nature of the crime scene led authorities to think it was a mob hit. But in all uncertainty was actually caused by their own sons, Erik and Lyle Menendez.

In March of 1990, their confession to their personal psychologists led to their scrutiny and they were soon arrested and charged by the police. The Menendez murders become one of America's most famous criminal cases with the potent mix of family drama, Hollywood connections, and dramatic testimony. They went to trial in 1993 where they admitted to the killing of their parents but firmly stated as an act of self-defence. They cried for the sympathy of prosecutors and exposed their father's unbearable years of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse upon them. Despite this, they were painted as spoiled, egocentric boys who were only after their father's money and fortune. They were convicted of first-degree murder and are currently serving life in prison without the possibility of parole.



That sentence is now subject to change as George Gascó, LA County's top prosecutor, spoke on the newfound evidence and his personal perception of the case.

"I believe the brothers were subject to a tremendous amount of dysfunction in their home and molestation," Although there is no excuse for murder, he added: "I believe they have paid their debt to society".

The news of their potential resentencing came after the recent release of two Hollywood projects which created buzz and speculations, gaining support from celebrities such as Kim Kardashian, many came forward to issue their own public statements. Some say these Hollywood projects created a shift in the public perception of victims of sexual abuse, paving a freedom route for the Menendez brothers.

California parole board where they will examine the case and decide whether the Menendez brothers will be a threat to society or not. However even if the board approves their release, their fate falls upon Governor Gavin Newsom, Governor of California, who could decide to halt further proceedings.



What's next for the Menendez brothers? November 1st's filing will provide the baseline information for the district attorney office's arguments that will be made before the judge on why the brothers should be resentenced. George Gascó's office (LA county district attorney) is asking they be sentenced for murder, Mr Gascó notes that his office has been divided in perspective and certain members of staff may argue against him in court. If the judge approves the new sentence, attention will shift to the



By the epsom magazine team.