

ARK ACTON ACADEMY PRESENTS:

ARK ACTON ARTICLES

Issue #3 Tuesday 19th July 2021

England vs Italy: The Grand Finale



Racism at the finals of Euros?!

I am going to be honest; I don't really watch much football (don't hurt me), but I have decided to write about because of the recent defeat of England in the Euro finals. Even someone like me, who doesn't care much for football, is in despair after the final. The game was very intense, ending up with a penalty shootout and there was a great deal of controversy towards the penalties. There was a lot of pressure put on Saka (who missed the last goal) and sadly a lot of racism towards him.

Football (isn't) coming home!



Photographed by Jana.
Models: Hodan and Aylin

The discrimination directed towards him and Rashford was honestly just **disgusting**.

Sadly, England was not able to win another football tournament, with the last being in 1966. On the 11th of July 2021, England suffered its defeat against Italy. This left people around the whole country in sorrow, for they were so sure that England was going to win, especially after the first goal by England was scored in **2 mins**.

Written by Demians.

Covid hits again!

Written By: Amal

As adults keep on getting vaccinated less people are dying. People are shopping more than they did during lockdown. This is the help businesses have needed.

Do you think it's a good idea for most remaining restrictions to be lifted on July 19?



Photographed by Jasmine and Fatima.
Models: Ahmed and Yusra and Salma

THE WORLD STANDS DISGRACED!

Written by Rana

Last week Israel and Hamas agreed to a ceasefire in a conflict that claimed nearly **250** lives! Two hundred Palestinians, including **59** children, have been killed during a week of attacks in Gaza.

As the world feels sorry for Palestinians Israel continues their strikes.

Israel has hit nearly **800** targets in one day! As for yesterday (23.06.2021) it was just an ordinary day when suddenly an airstrike hit, in that airstrike of about **14** deaths and **23** injured. All the deaths together in Palestine count to **256** and the injuries have reached **1,900**.

we, trust the government?

Why it is important to do exercise in life?

Written by: Eklaida

Why is it important to do exercise in life? If you exercise in life, you'll be healthy. You would get skinnier and lose weight. That is why our school, Ark Acton Academy, gives you a chance to do exercise like trampolining, tennis, lacrosse, athletics, running and 50t. So, if you want to be healthy you could join our clubs or you could eat healthy and drink healthy smoothies. If you stay on your sofa with TV, iPads, phone, and junk food.... that won't help. But if you do exercise, go for a run in the morning, eat/drink healthy, and maybe a little junk food. You are going to live longer, and you won't get sick to many times.



Photographed by Hodan.
Models: Jano
Edited by Jana.

The Year 8 Drop Down Day

Written By: Cieran

For the first time in months, Ark Acton had a Drop Down Day, meaning that we had no normal lessons. In the past there have been good drop-down days, like designing our own cereal, but this Drop-Down Day (which happened on 1st July) might be the best so far. While I can't speak for other year groups, Year 8 did a mini-sports day of sorts, with each period being a sport. These included lacrosse, football, trampolining, rounders, dancing, and table tennis. The highlights of the day for me included trampolining, in which we did 180 degree turns while jumping, dancing, where we danced to popular songs, while seeing who the best dancer was, and football, where we had heated games to determine the Ronaldo of our generation. Overall, I really liked this Drop-Down Day. While by the end of the day, I could barely walk, it was still a fun event. I really hope that the school does more Drop-Down Days in the future, because this one made me very excited for more of them.

Conspiracy Theories: fact or fiction?

Written By: Sebastian

As conspiracy theories have seen an exponential rise in the last decades, so have the number of hot-headed individuals that stand by the dogma imposed by those who start these rumors. And even as debunking's of these theories grow in numbers, the people who believe these things will not stop advocating for them. But are they real? Is it all a farse? Can, and should

Did Obama send the immigrants to vaccinate your kids?

Written By: Sebastian

This title may sound ludicrous, and that's because it is. But I choose it for a specific purpose, and that is to tackle two conspiracies at once: vaccines and myths about immigrants (I do not have any info on former president Obama, sadly) The answer is many things. Aluminum, taste improvers, gelatin, and other fancy-sounding chemicals. But they don't exactly hide them with malicious intent, or really hide them at all. While these molecules may sound dangerous or out of place, remember that it is all about the way they mix and react. For instance, take table salt: it's made of chlorine, a poisonous gas, and sodium, which reacts very violently with water. Fortunately, salt will not make you explode or poison you either. Vaccines contain apparently dangerous elements but are overall harmless. The theoretical minimum of the science behind vaccines is this: they inject you with an innocuous part present in the specific pathogen you are trying to become immune to and, this is the very important part, it contains a microchip that lets Bill Gates control you with 5G. Just kidding...

It trains your immune system to properly respond to the pathogen, thus reducing the damage it may pose or preventing it entirely (the more scientifically accurate description would be "triggers a response in your immune system") One argument often put forward by those who refute vaccines is "but some people die from it". While true, that chance is demonstrably low, and the benefits outweigh the rare risk.

This argument is also a solid starting base to then talk about possibly one of the most controversial things of the last year or so: the Covid-19 vaccine. Many are skeptical regarding its safety, if it was released too quickly, what the long-term effects will be etc.... This historical period has put some major stress onto most individuals, and so we cannot really blame those who have these worries. But fear not, kind folk, for I am here to answer your questions! Firstly, the vaccine has been worked on by tens of thousands of scientists and a hundred or so companies, a project whose scale was never seen before. The technique utilized in the covid vaccine has been worked upon for the past decade, so it is not something entirely new. The vaccine also definitely is not rushed, considering the personnel who undertook this task was massive both in size and scope. Secondly, I will address concerns about the vaccines' safety. Indeed, they are safe. While there have been reported cases of allergic reactions and even a miniscule number of deaths, as stated beforehand, these situations are extremely rare, and the positives outweigh the negatives. Lastly, while we cannot be certain of what the long-term effects of the vaccine will be, the probability that they will seriously threaten one's physical health is extremely low and, once more, the protection the vaccine offers against Sars-Cov-2 is worth the potential risk in the future as we currently necessitate something to, you know, prevent many more millions of deaths. If you want a more in-depth explanation of the Covid-19 vaccine and why it is the safest option we have to return to a normal society, I encourage you to watch "A Doctor Discusses COVID Vaccine Safety" by Strong Medicine (which also inspired a large portion of this article). Overall, while there are some cases of side effects caused by vaccines, the defense they provide against all kinds of nasty things is definitely worth you taking them. You should trust medical experts, but you should also research on any topic you feel strongly about and expand your knowledge of how the world works and how we can keep safe from all the bad stuff which we will inevitably come across at some time.

Now let's talk immigration; Are foreigners evil?

Written By: Sebastian

Now that we've got evil vaccines out of the way, let us discuss the second topic mentioned at the beginning of the article: immigrants, and the misconceptions surrounding them.

As an immigrant who lived in Italy 2 years prior and has parents that emigrated from Romania to my country of birth, I can relate to a lot of people who also are immigrants and reading this newspaper. But even so, I cannot relate to many other immigrants reading this. While we may have some experiences in common such as leaving friends behind, having to embrace a new culture and language and a vast range of other challenges, we all have widely varying experiences. I, for one, had it fairly easy: I wasn't escaping political conflict, or poverty, or famine, but just looking for new opportunities in a more diverse and developed country. Others (or their parents), on the other hand, are running away from war-torn countries and barely survive the journey. And so, it is the most disheartening thing to hear people still arguing against immigration, still supporting stereotypes regarding foreigners, still contributing to what, let's be honest, is blatant racism. I'll attempt to debunk as many of these myths as possible, so let's get started. We will begin with one of the most common urban legends concerning immigrants: **the immigrants are stealing our jobs!** No. Just, no. Immigrants often take on jobs which are fundamental for a society to properly function, and if they are employed and you are not, you are the problem. They probably are willing to accept a lesser pay and longer hours due to the extreme circumstances in which many of them live, and most of them are also better at your job than you are. So, it is no wonder that immigrants are employed, and you are not. It is you. Onto the second legend: the immigrants will steal your children! I have heard this quite often, specifically regarding Romani individuals. While it is true that some engage in human trafficking, (just like many Caucasian people do) it is not a valid reason to label an entire race so insultingly.

Finally, some people wrongfully believe that immigrants damage our economy and just take advantage of social security. Again, incredibly untrue. Immigrants shop locally, pay tax, and rent and they constitute a very small percentage of people who received working age benefits. They contribute to the economy a lot and are absolutely needed for society as a whole not to crumble

(If you want to know more about this, there is a word document by www.embraceni.org that goes deeper in its analysis of these stereotypes)

Ok, so vaccines are not bad. Neither are immigrants. But that does not mean that all other conspiracy theories are also false, does it? It does not. But they are still wrong. However, I will consider one more only as this article is already long enough,

Can you trust the government?

Written By: Sebastian

This age-old question never fails to spark heated debates. Some side entirely against the government, others defend every action it takes. Just like many other times, I believe the solution resides in the middle. There are definitely some governmental entities that you can put your trust into, such as the NHS, even though sometimes they fumble and even fall. There are also many reasons as to why you should not trust the government, such as war crimes, capitalism, and rich people with a lot of power in general. The conspiracies we have covered today, and others like the likes of moon landing conspiracies, are far-fetched and can even damage the very cause they are fighting for: showing that the government is not quite as good as some people think it is. Learn to think for yourself and question everything but be rational and also base your thoughts on solid evidence. Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to collect the paycheck the government has given me for saying the earth is round. See you later, fools.

Flat Earth:

Written By: Sebastian

Flat earth conspiracies claim that the earth, despite popular belief and an overwhelming amount of scientific evidence, is flat and NASA is lying to us. Not too much I can say about this, but I will say a few things. Differing amounts of sunlight at different areas, the shape of other planets and the moon, the existence of shadows, time zones, gravity and much more is hopefully a good enough explanation of why the earth definitely isn't flat. Flat earthers are often ridiculous for the sake of it, coming up with more and more bizarre ideas that should definitely be an indicator for the validity of the flat earth theory itself. Many members of this community are narcissistic, irrational, scientifically illiterate, overall, not much smarter than the next-door puppy. But the puppy at least is cute and does not spread disinformation and unfounded mistrust for the government and space giants. So, your choice: flat earth, or cute dogs?

Well Done to The Newspaper team 2021

Sebastian, Cieran, Demians, Rana, Amal Salma, Denis, Tom, Mario, Malikai, Precious, David, Hodan, Jana, Khadijo, Eklaida, Ahmed, Nephtali, Aylin, Zaniya, And Efron.

Thank you to Ms. Briggs for your help putting the paper on the website.



Poster by Demians

Interested in joining the newspaper in 2021-2022?

Email mbishop@arkacton.org

Shrek 2: How to make a sequel

“89%” - Rotten Tomatoes



Written by Cieran

If you couldn't tell, this review, if I could even call it that, is utterly and authentically false. This movie, dare I call it that, this masterpiece deserved and earned the extra 11%. As Shrek 2 celebrates its' 17th anniversary in the UK, I decided to take another view at this crowd-pleasing. Shrek 2 had always been my preferred Shrek experience, easily annihilating 3 and 4, and even topping the classic, but I never knew a tenth of this stunning piece of art until the time of writing this. I know now that this is the movie that companies that Illumination or Blue-Sky cry to sleep to, thinking that even their best movie cannot even compare to the worst milliseconds of Shrek 2. You know what? I'm supposed to give a brief summary and overall perspective on Shrek 2 here, but that would make me feel polluted inside, because that would be the greatest underestimation of anything ever. So, I will dive into this as one dives right into the swimming pool, only this is filled with swamp water. While he is doing better than in the first installment, Shrek stills deals with how some view him, doubting that he is good enough for Fiona, this is shown best in the scene where Shrek looks through Fiona's childhood diary with the final words in each entry, Mrs. Fiona Charming, haunting him as he flips through each page faster and faster with thoughts of if this is really what Fiona wants. There may not be any dialogue, but it says 1000 words that most movies strive for. Sadly, Fiona and Donkey don't add much to the overall despite still being very funny characters overall. However, Fiona's parents, King Harold, and Queen Lillian, especially Harold are crucial in kickstarting the themes of self-worth Shrek deals with. From the moment they arrive, it is very clear how much resentment King Harold has for Shrek, while this may seem one-sided, it is revealed later that he was a frog prior to meeting Lillian, possibly showing that his discontent with Shrek is more than just "ugly ogre bad". A new character, Puss in Boots, is introduced as well, being so memorable that he spawned his own sub-series. Not to mention the amazing villain. The Fairy Godmother is the magnum opus of Shrek as she is the one who locked Fiona in the castle, what could be described as the most important part of the entire Shrek series. However, she is quick to adapt her plan too. When looking at the potion Shrek stole, she is able to change the entire direction of her plan within 3 seconds, which solidifies her place as the magnum opus of Shrek.

Debate Mate: My Experience

Written By: Sebastian

The Debate Mate club has been going for a while, but just recently we were in the top 5 nationally! As a member of the club, I wanted to share my experience and some of the pros of attending debate club. First, it teaches some really useful life skills like coming up with arguments and responses with very little time on your hand. It teaches your brain to think quickly and to be respectful during debates, as well as providing evidence for each of your points. This is critical to a lot of jobs, but also life in general. My personal experience is that the club is really fun. You get to share your opinions with others and consider new viewpoints, which helps you grow as an individual. Competitions are also quite thrilling and competitive. And you get to eat sweets. Why wouldn't you want sweets? In general, it is a lot of fun and really educational. Try it out, and if you do not like it, that's fine. But new experiences are always good, especially this one!



Teacher Ryan Francis

Debate Mate team: Hodan, Junayd, Amanuel, Ahmed, John, Sebastian, Daisy, Stefanija, Senka, Sahal

Photograph by Ms. Briggs