

"I gave up soda and Instagram to be healthier and limit my screen time."  
- **KARIN TORGERSON '26**

"I gave up my afternoon naps so that I can fix my sleep schedule."  
- **DANIEL DEVINE '25**

"I gave up Instagram because I am on it too much."  
- **SOPHIA ERENO '26**

"I'm giving up chocolate milk because I drink it too much and I'm trying to be healthier."  
- **JOHN HENRY WELSH '24**

WE GIVE UP a  
lot FOR LENT.  
WHAT ARE YOU  
GIVING UP?

"Diet coke because its not good for me and I'm really trying to have healthier eating habits."  
- **GRACE FOSTER '24**

"I gave up sleeping in because I wanted to do more stuff on the weekends. I'm able to cram more in a day if I wake up earlier."  
- **JOHN CARR '26**

"I'm giving up Starbucks and red meat because I spend too much money buying coffee and I want to be healthier and drink less caffeine."  
- **MARY JOHNSTON '24**

"For me, this year I gave up chocolate because i kind of wanted to get in shape. Stopping eating candy was a good way to do that."  
- **CONNOR SANTOS '27**

**[1] Forming Fortune** **COCO ROTHENBERG '26, GIANNA YANG '25, BONNIE HUNG '27,** and **KATELYN EFFENDI '27** chat while making Chinese knots. These bright red knots symbolize good luck and prosperity in Chinese culture. **[2] Good Food = Good Mood** Seniors **JIA BHADASNA** and **EVA FRANCO**, along with fellow students from VSA and ASA gather around to indulge in delicious snacks and drinks. *photos by kylie tran*

MATCH MADE in  
book heaven

What students think about the books they got during Book Club's "Blind Date with a Book" event.

**"BOTH CAN BE TRUE"**  
"I chose this book because it had animals in it. I also thought I'd choose a love book because it's valentine's day and I was really curious as to what was in it. I don't know what to expect. Ooh, also it has drawings in here which is nice."  
- **BRIANNA JOHNSON '24**

**"FOUR DEAD QUEENS"**  
"I chose this book because I saw the description had 'alternate future' or something like that and I was confused on what it meant, and it looks really cool and really long so I was like 'ok, let's get a long book so I can keep reading it!'"  
- **JOVIEMAE OLIVA '27**

**"DAUGHTER OF THE SIREN QUEEN"**  
"I read the description and it seems like something I would read, and I had a feeling that I already had the first book. I saw it and I realized 'I do have the first book already' and this is the next one in the series so I'm really excited about that."  
- **ISABELLA NAZARENO '27**

**"LES MISERABLES: THE MANGA"**  
"I'm excited because right now I'm reading Les Mis the novel and I've also listened to Les Mis musical. I think it's an amazing story and I want to see how this book tells the story because that sounds cool."  
- **MARGARET FORREST '26**



**[1] A Look in the Book** Having just received the previous year's yearbook from the Poverello staff, French exchange students clap after the Newspaper club presentation. They spent their day listening to presentations and getting to know several clubs and organizations on campus through. **RACHEL SAFIER** invited several groups from around campus to share what life in the U.S. was like. **[2] Golden Gate State of Mind** French students and their hosts roam the streets of San Francisco on a field trip to the city. Students ate at a dim sum restaurant and visited the cable car museum. **[3] I Feel the Need for Speed** Student hosts and the French students go Go Kart racing. This was a great opportunity for them to bond and become closer during their short time together. *photos by marina kan*



LUCKY lunar  
new year

ASA and VSA celebrate Lunar New Year with food and traditional Chinese arts and crafts.

Lunar New Year was collectively celebrated this year on February 10th as it is an important time for many Asian cultures. It marks the beginning of a new year of the Lunar calendar. The occasion celebrates the arrival of spring and is guided by lunisolar calendars, which follow both the lunar phase and the time of the solar year. Traditionally, the holiday last roughly one week in China and three days in Vietnam. The Asian and Vietnamese Student Associations took this opportunity to collaborate and have a joint party between members of both groups. They used this time to hold a meeting with everyone, enjoy Asian snacks like egg rolls and dried coconut candy, and partake in traditional crafts like bracelet making and Chinese knot weaving. Separately they each decorated one of the Innovations Center's glass rooms and gave out red envelopes filled with candy and a message inside. **MADELINE NGUYEN '26** shares how the event went saying, "The meeting was probably my favorite part because we got to share more about what Lunar New Year is and the turnout was great. Roughly 40 people came." Additionally, Chinese classes taught by **NING ZHANG** also used this time to build Chinese paper lanterns and dragons.



UNRAVELING  
hidden truths

The Lancer hosts an event with retired journalist Scott Herhold

**ZACK HERHOLD** invited his father, **SCOTT HERHOLD**, a long-time journalist at the Mercury News, to speak to the newspaper about his experience covering and writing a book about the Stanford Church Murder of 1955. **MR. HERHOLD** later explained how having such a passionate journalist as a father affected him. "Every day his job was a little bit different, you know, one day he was interviewing a council member, and the next day he was doing an investigation so he'd come home and he'd bring that variety of discussion. He'd usually want to engage with you and have a conversation and see it from an alternate perspective." **MR. HERHOLD** quickly realized that he didn't want to follow the path of journalism, but he did notice some overlap. "I actually think I get a lot of my interests from my dad, like our interest in learning history and telling stories and sharing those stories with an audience." He shares that passion for history and storytelling with his students, just like his father did with him.



**[1] All Lined Up** Students in AP US History line up in front of the class to argue their positions. They expressed the point of view of people from that time period. **[2] Order in the Court** **LANDON KIM '25** sits at the front of the class, acting as moderator. Students who moderated used a diet coke as a gavel. *photos by liam roedling*

crossing  
OCEANS

Students from Saint-Michel de Picpus in Paris join Lancers for a week of connection

For the first time ever, French exchange students visited and experienced American high schools through a program run by **RACHEL SAFIER**. Thirteen honorary Lancers from Saint-Michel de Picpus in Paris, a fellow Holy Cross school, attended class with the host students, experiencing American culture. During the week, they didn't just go to school, but they also visited Moreau Catholic High School, participated in Super Bowl festivities, and went up to San Francisco. Junior **CONSTANCE NICOLAS** gives us a glimpse into her reactions and feelings during the week. She says, "I wanted to see if this was like a Netflix series, and it was. My host family is amazing and living with them lets me meet people. I loved it because I could be immersed in the habits and culture of America. I definitely recommend this experience to other teenagers as well because it is the perfect moment to do it and it was really amazing." Host students also had a window into the lives of the French students. Through this experience they built lasting friendships. **JASON**

**SCHUYLER '26** hosted **SHAN-MALONE HUANG LEBAZ** for the week. Jason describes this experience: "Shan played a lot of sports and was a boxer so it was fun connecting with him over that. Overall, he seemed like a really good guy who is really fun to be around. An interesting thing that happened during the week was him joining our Super Bowl. He wasn't super into football but there were some other French people there who he got to talk to." **MS. SAFIER** was the primary leader in this exchange, playing an integral role in making this journey fun and enjoyable for everyone who was a part of it. **MARINA KAN '25** speaks on the important position that she had in helping out: "She helped organize the whole week and played a role in communicating with all of the host families and French students." Later this year, **MS. SAFIER** has helped plan a trip to Paris where Lancers will get the opportunity to experience French culture. It will also give them the chance to create lasting friendships just like the French exchange students were able to.

the great  
DEBATE

Students argue for and against imperialism in AP US History

On February 5, **MR. JOHN FOY'S** 6th Period AP US History class studied the effects of US imperialism, but with a special twist! It was a mock debate, meaning students act as a variety of historical figures from the time period discussed; from priests, naval officers, and presidents to farmers, high school teachers and students. Two groups of students argued both sides of imperialism and anti-imperialism, while a jury watched and prepared to decide on the final verdict. Students asked each other questions as if they existed in the era, and tried to provide perspective from their respective figures. **KATE LEVY '25**, posing as a poor white southerner, declared, "I would be anti. I don't want more people gaining citizenship and coming to get rights when I am suffering already." **RISHI ISRANI '25**, acting as a local farmer, agreed, saying "I am mainly anti because imperialism messes with my customer base because I need my customers to stay home and not be going off to other countries or be moving. I do not want upset customers, I want calm US citizens that will buy my produce." In contrast, the pro-imperialism side included naval officers and presidents for the benefits it served to their positions. Overall, the debate not only gave students the opportunity to learn about US imperialism and influence on other countries, but also broadened their perspectives by forcing them to learn about the different viewpoints of a variety of people from that time period.