

# The (De)Confinement Times

An End-of-Year Digest from the APESA Staff  
26th June 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

This term, with its unprecedented challenges, is coming to an end and we can look forward to a well-deserved summer break.

The move to online teaching and learning was a steep learning curve for us all: teachers, students and parents alike. During the period of confinement our students produced some excellent work (some examples are shared below), and we want to acknowledge the creativity and resilience that they have shown. They have continued their learning at a very high level and they can be proud of what they have achieved over this period.

We also acknowledge the great efforts that our teachers made to modify their lessons and their teaching practices at very short notice and with little opportunity to adjust to the new working conditions. Their determination to do their best for the students and to support them through this difficult time was clearly demonstrated throughout. Our admin team also rose to the challenge, putting in place online processes for admissions testing and re-enrolment, which helped to overcome many of the limitations imposed on us by the closure of the school.

As the school year comes to the end, we need to say some Goodbyes: to the APESA families who will be leaving us this year; to the Te students who will move on to new adventures, academic and otherwise; and to the two Anglophone Section teachers (Mr Quinn and Ms Hène) who will be following their career paths elsewhere. We wish all of you every success in the future, and we hope that you will continue to keep in touch with our community.

We are also looking forward to September 2020, preparing for the *rentrée* and the new academic year. We have fully reviewed our practice to date, taking into account the very useful feedback that was given by APESA families in the recent survey. As always, our principle aim is to ensure that all of our students continue to learn, in the best possible circumstances.

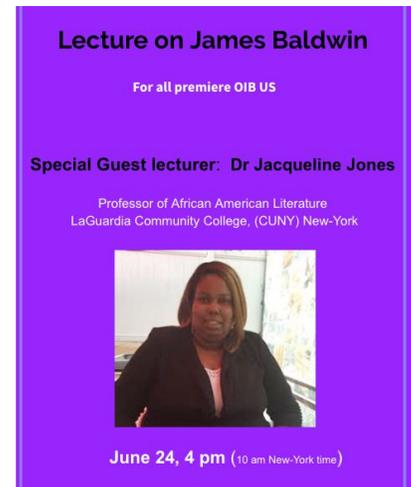
On behalf of the APESA President, Lara Bonucci, myself, and all our staff in the Anglophone Section, we wish you all a safe, relaxing and very enjoyable holiday.

All my very best wishes,

Rob Miller  
Head of the Anglophone Section

## 1ere OIB US: Online conference with Dr Jacqueline Jones

On 24th June the OIB US teachers organised an online conference with a special guest lecturer: Dr Jacqueline Jones, Professor of African American Literature from La Guardia Community College, New York. Dr Jones spoke to the 1ere students about James Baldwin (American novelist, playwright, essayist, poet, and activist: 1924-1987) and the continuing relevance of his works through to the present day. The conference was a great success and we extend our thanks to Dr Jones for taking the time to talk with our students. A short biography of Dr Jones is available [here](#).



## ILYMUN 2021: Update

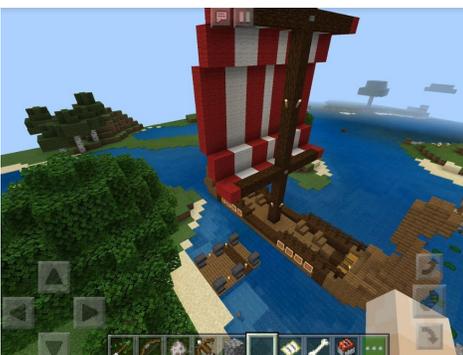
Conference Theme: “Cyberworld: are truth, justice and peace in balance?”

The student-led MUN club has continued to work towards the next ILYMUN conference in 2021. Throughout the period of confinement they have organised a number of online debates for *collège* and *lycée* students. This will undoubtedly stand them in good stead for the theme they have chosen, which focuses on the expansion of the digital world, the implications for humanity and the need for regulation by global institutions.

We want to congratulate the MUN club members for pushing on with this project under these difficult circumstances, and will continue to support their efforts.

## Display of Work: Mr Rattos' Geography Classes

“Working from home” at short notice, during a nation-wide lockdown, has forced our teachers *and* our students to get creative, and to use the resources at their disposal...



Mr Rattos (History / Geography) set his students a range of fun assignments to do, linking to their studies and requiring them to find new and innovative ways to complete their assignments! From cartoon strips to crafty robots, from passionate (Brexit) poems to inspired artworks, from Lego Vikings to Minecraft creations: it's going to be hard to go back to writing boring old essays after this!



[A collection of the work is displayed here for you to enjoy.](#)

## “Teen Tales” goes into production: Drama Club Update

The indomitable Collège Drama Club, led by Ms Kincade, have *really* risen to the challenges imposed on them by lockdown. They have continued to meet (online), to rehearse (at a distance) and to source props and scenery (by email request) as they prepare their production of “Teen Tales”. When their original plan to perform the play for parents and other guests at CSI was scuppered by the closure of the school, they decided instead to film the entire production! The production will be made available for parents to view in due course.

## 4eme: “Confinement vs Freedom” Poetry Meet

Poetry has been a particular focus for the 4eme Language & Literature students during the period of confinement. With their teachers, they studied various forms of poetry. At home they used their journals, plus their own knowledge and research, to write poems on the theme of “confinement v’s freedom”.

Ms Rozé writes: *We had a huge Google Meet on Monday the 22nd where students shared their poetry with everyone (all the 4eme students were invited to the Meet). It was a great way to celebrate what they had done. We could not be prouder of the hard work our students have exhibited during this complicated time!*

[A selection of the poems can be read here.](#)



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