

SKYLINE

Magazine



ISSUE # 3



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Welcome

SKYLINE Magazine

back

New year already? Unbelievable! Here it is, 2012. Starting a new year gives us a mix of melancholy, hope and usually some resolutions that will not be carried out. My new year resolution is to continue growing in all aspects of life, probably with the help of my students. 2011 has been a very important year for Skyline English Centre, we finished our first academic year, survived the summer (usually quite difficult for English schools) and started a new academic year with not only new students but also new staff. Every single one of you are as important, but this time I want to thank from the bottom of my heart those whose loyalty makes us continue.

This last month has been crazy, our children finished the first term and we had the chance to meet again with some of the parents and meet for the first time some new ones who we welcome to our Skyline family. We also carried out the first Pronunciation Workshop of the year with high attendance. Now we have to get ready for the second one.

As you all know, we started our SKYLINE FOOD RACE back in November and we finished it in mid-December. The level of involvement was so overwhelming that it makes it difficult to say how thankful and proud I am of being around people as generous as you all. We got 93 kg that the Food Bank received, as planned, before Christmas. So again, thank you!

In this issue you will find quite an interesting tradition in the Culture Corner, we offer you some ideas for your free time during January, including the big event "Pinguinos 2012". Two of our students have collaborated this time with some great writing. I would like to thank them for their huge effort. In the Travelling Corner, Natalia introduces us to Scotland and we continue with our section Tweets of the month to offer you some informal language.

I hope you enjoy the reading and remember that teaching you is our priority, you inspire us every day.

Learn well

María Menéndez
Skyline English Centre



Julia, 16

Alberto, 7

Pedro, 7

Laura, 7

Estela, 7

Sandra, 6

MY MONSTER

My monster is Caster, it has nine arms. It has ten blue eyes.

It has four red mouths

It has a blue head.

It has one orange nose.

It has two pink ears.

My feelings

My name is Ana. I'm 8 years old.

I'm brave when I go swimming

I'm tired at night.

When I'm sad I go to my father.

I'm happy with my friends.

My friends feelings

My friends are happy when they eat chocolate.

I'm sad when I'm angry.

When my friends are playing football

I'm happy

When my friends are riding a bike they are tired

When they are swimming, they are very happy.

When they close their eyes, they are tired.



PENFRIEND

Hello, I'm Sarah. I'm 9 years old. I'm Spanish, I'm from Spain. I don't like playing chess and playing football, it is boring. I really like to do karate and doing drama. What do you like? My email is sarimora11@gmail.com. Send me an email, please.

Thank
you.



Sarah P.
9 years old.



Tweets of the month



MissKellyO Kelly Osbourne

Never let success get to your head, and never let failure get to your heart.

4 de dic



DalaiLama Dalai Lama

It is vital that when educating our children's brains that we do not neglect to educate their hearts.

5 de dic



zoesaldana Zoe Saldana

"It's not every day that you have a chance to change someone's life"
- Jeff Tarrant, Circle of Hope member

5 de dic



krugerparkcom KrugerPark.com

"When a man wants to murder a tiger he calls it sport; when a tiger wants to murder him he calls it ferocity." — George Bernard Shaw

14 de dic



ANDYSAMBERG_ Andy Samberg

"Haven't I seen you some place before?" "Yeah. That's why I don't go there anymore."

18 de dic



GreggBishop Gregg Bishop

People who say "it cannot be done" should stop interrupting the people who are doing it.

21 de dic

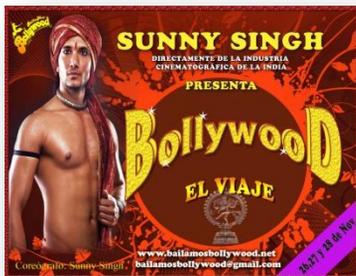


**Send us your favourite tweets
@skylinecentre**

Also on 

What to do

✓ “Cut the Red Wire” a new comedy show with Paramount comedy monologists Carlos Ramos, Salomon Xiexio and Jose Andres. If you like laughing, this may be a good option for your free time this month. It will take place on Thursday 12th January at 21.30 in Sala Porta Caeli.



✓ “Bollywood: the journey”: a musical show that takes us to the famous Indian cinema industry. It consists of 14 dancers and 300 garments. The choreographies are lively and they mix Indian dances with modern western ones. You can enjoy the show on the 20th and 21st January in Teatro Zorrilla. Organized by the House of India.

✓ “A Highway behind the plug”: an interactive tour to learn about electricity, how it is created, transported and managed. The target is to aware people of efficient and responsible consumption of electricity. Visitor will have the option to take part in different workshops. You can enjoy the visit until 31st January at the Science Museum.

✓ “Black Swan”, consisting of three choreographies, “Swan Lake”, “Who cares?” and “Suspended Time”, it gives us different views of classical dance. The show mixes pop-rock with classical dance performed by Corella Ballet Castilla y León. There will be four performances from 13th to 15th January in Teatro Calderón



THE COMPANY

IKEA has been a store that designs and sells ready-to-assemble furniture for over almost 70 years. It all started when Ingvar Kampr founded it at the age of 17 (1943) with some money his father gave him for his studies. The name IKEA is formed from the founder's initials (I.K.) plus the first letters of Elmtaryd (E) and Agunnaryd (A), the farm and village where he grew up. The store started selling good such as pens wallets, watches... but today it is number one on selling furniture, appliances and home accessories.

All IKEA stores in the world have the same image and structure, the corporate colours are blue and yellow, the Sweden's national colours. Many of the stores include restaurants serving traditional food at inexpensive prices, for instance, the Swedish meatballs; as well as a Swedish food market where customers can find from *pastej krabba* (crab spread) to *godis röda snören* (strawberry laces).

IKEA is not just a furniture shop, it is involved in several international charitable causes, particularly in partnership with UNICEF and is part of the INGKA Foundation created by IKEA's founder and dedicated to promoting innovations in architecture and interior design. IKEA was named one of the 100 Best Companies for Working Mothers in 2004 and 2005 by *Working Mothers* magazine. It ranked 96 in Fortune's 100 Best Companies to Work For in 2006 and in October 2008, IKEA Canada LP was named one of "Canada's Top 100 Employers" by Mediacorp Canada Inc.

OPENINGS



- 1981: Paris, France
- 1985: Philadelphia, USA
- 1987: Manchester, UK
- 1989: Milan, Italy
- 1996: Madrid, Spain
- 1998: Shanghai, China
- 2000: Moscow, Russia
- 2004: Lisbon, Portugal



IKEA VALLADOLID

After five years of rumours and promises about the opening of IKEA in Valladolid, it finally happened on 20th December 2011. Several local authorities including the mayor as well as the Swedish ambassador, Cecilia Julin and representatives of the firm were invited to the opening breakfast that took place at 8.00 that same day to visit the store.

There were prizes for the first customers; 600€ for the first to enter the store, 200€ to the next 20 customers and 50€ to the 300 next customers, as long as all of them were wearing blue and yellow, IKEA's corporate colours. In addition, they drew lots for 200€ IKEA cards. IKEA Valladolid is the second biggest store in Spain, with 34,700 m² in two storeys which will display 9,500 products. The investment consists of 60€ million. It has already created 250 jobs and it is believed that 75 indirect jobs will also be created.

This is only the beginning, IKEA has been the first to open but in 2012 the new mall, Rio Shopping, will open creating more jobs in our city.



PINGÜINOS 2012



PINGÜINOS is an international winter motorcycle rally created more than 30 years ago. The first official mass meeting was held in March 1982 close to the city of Valladolid. From that moment the traditional date came to be the second weekend in January, after the Three Wise Men celebrations.

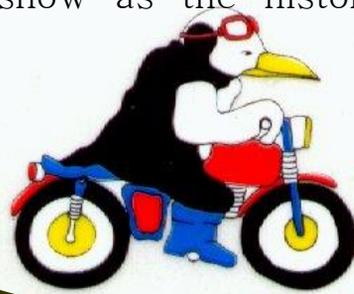
The location has changed over the years although it has always been held in the surroundings of Valladolid; from Fuensaldaña (1985), Tordesillas (1988), Boecillo (2001), Simancas (2008) or Puente Duero (2009).

Throughout 30 years it has increased dramatically, not only in attendance but also in infrastructure, activities and duration. From 320 motorcyclists registered for the first rally to 25,076 registered last year, the change is outstanding.

A Record Guinness was beat in 1990 rally as they got the longest line of motorbikes in the world, 2,270 metres.



Among the activities, it is worth to mention the creation in 1998 of “Pingüino de Oro”, an award for important figures who show their love and interest for motorcycling. Some people honoured with this award have been Toni Elias, Jorge Lorenzo, Angel Nieto... On the 25th Anniversary, there were several activities to commemorate such an important event; probably the most interesting one was “100 years of science in motorcycle” held in the Science Museum of Valladolid, the exhibition consisted of more that hundred motorcycles brought from different places in the world to show as the history of this lifestyle.





PINGÜINOS 2012

Programme of Activities

THURSDAY 12 JANUARY

10:30 hrs Campsite opens, Puente Duero, Valladolid.

11:00-23:00 Registration open.

FRIDAY 13 JANUARY

9:00-23:30 Registration open.

12:00-22:00 "Penguin" broth served (Penguins Square).

12:00-22:00 "Penguin" coffee served (Penguins Square).

12:30 Bike stunt display, Vallsur shopping centre car park.

16:30 Excursion to Mojados, aperitif and bike stunt display.

22:00 Live music, Penguins Square.

24:00 Penguins New Year's Eve Party. (Hogmanay, if you're Scottish!)

Toast to the New Year with cava (sparkling wine) and pine nuts.

Live music.

SATURDAY 14 JANUARY

7:30-10:00 "Penguin" breakfast.

9:00-23:30 Registration open.

12:00 Flag parade to Valladolid. Official reception by City Council. Aperitif and snack, bike stunt display.

12:00-23:00 "Penguin" broth served (Penguins Square).

12:00-23:00 "Penguin" coffee served (Penguins Square).

17:00 Bike stunt display in Valladolid, Acera de Recoletos.

19:30 Bike stunt display, Vallsur shopping centre car park.

19:00-21:00 "Penguin" dinner.

21:00 Live music, Penguins Square.

23:30 Torchlight Procession (homage to fallen bikers).

23:50 Fireworks Display.

24:00 Burning of the PENGUINS 2012 Effigy.

00:30 PENGUINS 2012 Party, Penguins Square.

Concert and Strippers Show.

SUNDAY 15 JANUARY

7:30-10:30 "Penguin" breakfast.

9:00-11-30 Registration open.

11:00 Press conference Penguins 2012, Penguins Square.

11:30 "GOLDEN PENGUINS 2012" Award Ceremony.

11:45 Trophy awards, HONDA motorbike raffle draw, assorted prizes.

12:30 Closure of the 2012 PENGUINS RALLY.





Movie of the month



Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked

Back in 1961 a new animated television series was created, *the Alvin Show*, it featured these three high-pitched singing characters for one season in prime time on CBS. Twenty years later, Alvin and his brothers returned, this time through NBC in a new show *Alvin and the Chipmunks*, which was aired from 1983 to 1990. In Spain, it was also aired in the 80s.

After two decades, Fox decided to create what is today a franchise. *Alvin and the Chipmunks* was released in 2007 on a budget of \$60 million and it made \$ 217 million in North America and \$ 361 million at the box office worldwide, being \$13.3million on the opening day, we can say it was a huge success. The second installment made even more money, the opening day ended with \$18.8 million. By this time children around the world liked Alvin and his brothers quite a lot, you could find a wide range of toys, video games, any merchandising that you could imagine was in the shops. That is why, of course, producers decided to try it one more time, *Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked* opened 16th December worldwide. Not such a big success this time, still it made \$ 6.7 million on its opening day.



Alvin Seville: The leader of the Chipmunks, Alvin is the talented troublemaker of the group.

Simon Seville: The tallest brother. Simon is the intelligent realist and the most responsible of the group.

Theodore Seville: The youngest brother. Theodore is the cute innocent butterball of the group.

The Chipettes: The Chipmunks' female counterparts and on-and-off girlfriends

David "Dave" Seville: The Chipmunks' adoptive father, songwriter and manager





Movie of the month

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked

The success of the franchise lies on different factors. Obviously, children love it because it is a cartoon movie with loveable little squirrels that can talk and sing. It has numerous pop-culture references and jokes and this makes it entertaining for adults too. But one of the most important things in the movies is the music. It has an incredible soundtrack including hits from pop stars of the moment, from Lady Gaga to Beyoncé. One of the highest moments in *Alvin and the Chipmunks the Squeakquel* is the performance by the Chipettes of Beyoncé's single "Put a ring on it".



In this third installment, all six singing squirrels are going on a cruise but because of Alvin's typical behavior they end up in the deserted island where they meet some problems due to the fact that, although they are pop stars, they are just kids. The movie is plenty of comic situations and does not forget about the essence of the characters.

Alvin and the Chipmunks, any of the three installments is a good 90 minute amusing time if you have any children.



FASHION

For me fashion consists of the evolution of clothes and designers and new trends. Over the years clothes have evolved both in creation, fabrics and colours.

What's in...

This year in hairstyle, take the braids, long wavy hair, straight hair and messy hair. A simple look, with little complication.

The make up for this year is a simple one, but what most make ups will highlight is the eyes in bright and well-marked colours, while the blush and lips will be natural.



In clothes the most important colours for the season are **mustard** and **garnet**, bright colours are also important, without extreme. As last years, this year leather garments are still in. We can't forget to wear animal print in simple clothes; you will see it in skirts, jumpers...



Another trend seen in the streets and specially for New Year's Eve is that with shine and sequins. But remember: avoid extremes!



In recent years, clothing accessories have evolved and changed dramatically. Clothing accessories are essential when creating an outfit and we can find a wide range from the most classical accessories to the most modern. Bags are number one complement and so there is a large variety in both size and colour.

FASHION

But we can't forget about shoes. Why do we love shoes so much? Because of their height, their colour, their shine... because of everything! It's complicated to explain.

My perfect look

My perfect look should be elegant but simple. You don't have to complicate it, it's important when you go out, night and day.

If you go out in the day, you should be casual; I love casual clothes, jeans, big jumpers and comfortable shoes. But if you go out at night, you should wear dresses, elegant clothes and high heels. It depends on the moment but most importantly you must feel comfortable.

Tips for 2012

Clothes: faux coat, gold and silver trousers, lace shirts and T-shirt with images of animals.



Accessories: Jeffrey Campbell, high heels with platform and small purses with sequins.



Hairstyle: hair bands, messy braids, natural colour and long hair.

Make up: shiny eye shadow, natural lips and pink blush.



BONSAI TREES



Living Sculptures

To know the story of Bonsai trees we must go back to Ancient China, when the emperors tried to conquer as much land as possible. In those times of campaigns far from home during a long time, the emperors missed their territories, so they simulated all those mountains and forests with small trees and landscapes; it is called Pen-Jin.

With time, these landscapes became individual and more transportable. So, this is the way that bonsais were created. And it developed a science on how these small trees should be looked after.

Through wars between Chinese and Japanese people, the last ones learnt the traditional art of bonsai and gave them their own character. To simplify, Chinese bonsais are like western Baroque pieces of art and Japanese ones are like Renaissance art.

Bonsai trees must be learnt as a living sculpture, and there are schools with our own kind of design, cares... The first thing a person needs to know about bonsais is that they must be patient. The trees have a slow growth, so you have to follow the pace that it asks you for.



When you decide to buy a bonsai you have to ask yourself where it is going to stay. You must never forget that a bonsai is a tree, so they can't live inside a house for too long. And you must think about the climate in your city. If you live in a cold place, a tropical species will die. So, it is very important to choose the kind of we can have before we buy it.



Bonsai (art of dwarfish trees cultivation)

BONSAI TREES



Living Sculptures

When our new small tree is at home, we must look after it. The watering is essential, like to fertilize it. In Japan, learners spend years watering bonsais, and when they control it, they are ready to learn another thing. So you have to learn when your tree needs water, because if you don't water it, it dies, and if you water it too much, it also dies. The simple rule is that you only have to water it when the surface is dry.

At this moment, our bonsai is not thirsty but it needs to eat. Never forget that a bonsai lives in a small pot, so all products should be for bonsais, and if they are not, we have to give them the fertilizer in less proportion that for a normal tree. The season for fertilizing is when the tree is growing or accumulating strength for the winter, this is in spring and autumn. During winter and summer the trees have no activity, so you only have to watch that they have enough water.

The most essential part of the bonsai is its size. To reduce its size the roots must be cut, according to the species, they can be cut every year, every two years... If you put a bonsai in the garden, it will grow like a normal tree. When we transplant the small tree we can take advantage of changing the soil. Normally the soil is inert, so we can contribute to the tree with our own products, and without insects or fungus in the soil.



If you take care of your tree, it is difficult that it has an illness, but when it appears, you must be fast and remedy it as soon as possible. There are a lot of products for illnesses of trees; although sometimes it is complicated to know which disease our tree has. In those cases, Internet forums and associations are the best friends to the new bonsai owner.

For more info: <http://www.madanoshumi.blogspot.com/>



Hogmanay

One of the biggest celebrations in the Scottish calendar is on New Year's Eve, with a numerous historical influences they celebrate Hogmanay. Throughout Scotland today, Hogmanay is a two-day holiday (no work on January 1 or 2) filled with all kinds of festivals, parties, bonfires and, now, fireworks. Edinburgh's Hogmanay Festival lasts for days and includes one of the most spectacular fireworks displays in the world. In many parts of Scotland, a midnight mass is still celebrated on New Year's Eve.



The most typical and generalized tradition is that called “first footing”, this is related to the first person who cross the threshold of our house as soon as the bells ring midnight. Legend says if that person is a handsome young man, he will bring good luck for the upcoming year. The visitor should bear gifts such as bread of meat as food for the year, coal(less common today) as warmth for the year and whisky as drink for the year.



Hogmanay



Another unforgettable tradition is singing Auld Lang Syne, originally a poem by Robert Burns which was set into music. It is now common for this to be sung in a circle of linked arms that are crossed over one another as the clock strikes midnight for New Year's Day, although it is only intended that participants link arms at the beginning of the final verse, co-ordinating with the lines of the song which contain the lyrics to do so. Typically, it is only in Scotland this practice is carried out correctly. This Scottish practice was demonstrated by the Queen at the Millennium Dome celebrations for the year 2000. Auld Lang Syne is very widely used to symbolise other "endings/new beginnings" – including farewells, funerals, graduations, the end of a (non-New Year) party.... There are a lot of different adaptations of the song in different languages and countries.

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind ?*

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
and auld lang syne* ?*

CHORUS:

*For auld lang syne, my jo (or my dear),
for auld lang syne,*

we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,

for auld lang syne.

*And surely ye'll be your pint-stoup !
and surely I'll be mine !*

*And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.*

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind ?*

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
and auld lang syne* ?*

CHORUS:

*For auld lang syne, my jo (or my dear),
for auld lang syne,*

we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,

for auld lang syne.

*And surely ye'll be your pint-stoup !
and surely I'll be mine !*

*And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.*



TRAVELLING CORNER



Scotland



Scotland is the UK's most northern country and has around 790 islands off its coasts – 130 of which have people living on them. Scotland is well known for its stunning landscapes, beautiful beaches and lochs, which are fresh water lakes. There are over 600 square miles of lochs in Scotland including the most famous one, Loch Ness.

It has a population of just over five million people which is about 8.5 per cent of the whole UK population. Over 2 million of these live in Glasgow and Edinburgh, and almost half of Scotland's population live in the Central Belt, where both the largest city (Glasgow) and the capital city (Edinburgh) are located.



Political devolution

In July 1999 the Scottish Parliament was opened, the first for over 300 years as Scotland had been governed from London. Scottish Parliamentary responsibilities include health, education and local government.



TRAVELLING CORNER



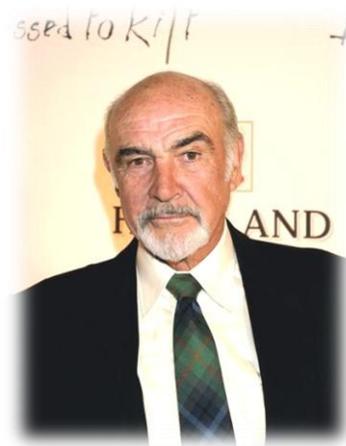
Scotland



Festivals and music

Scotland also hosts one of the biggest arts festivals in the world. This is commonly known as the Edinburgh Festival but is actually made up of a number of different festivals which happen at different times of the year, though many do take place in August and September. Many people have heard of the Fringe Festival, but there are also the International Festival, the Film Festival, the Children's Festival and the Edinburgh Mela which is an intercultural festival.

Musically, it has recently produced bands Travis and Franz Ferdinand and other famous Scots include Ewan McGregor, Sean Connery and JK Rowling.



Stereotypes

Stereotypical images of Scotland often focus on things like tartan, kilts, heather and haggis as well as the scenery. These are all still a part of the country but contemporary Scotland is building a name for itself in other areas, such as its thriving computer games industry.





Irish Stew

Ingredients (4 serves)

- 2 1/2 lb boned mutton
- 4 large potatoes
- 2 large onions
- 3 or 4 medium carrots
- sprig of parsley
- 2 cups water
- salt and pepper



Cut the meat into good size chunks. Peel the vegetables and slice thickly. Chop the parsley. Choose a pot with a well-fitting lid and put in the ingredients in layers, starting and finishing with potatoes. Pour in the water and season to taste. Cover and put on a very low heat for about 2 1/2 hours until the meat is tender and the potatoes have thickened the liquid. The dish may also be made with lamb, in which case it requires only 1 1/2 hours cooking time.

Irish Stew Irish stew is easy to make and if made with mutton and cooked slowly will be both flavorsome and tender. Mutton, being an older meat, has more flavor than lamb but does need to be cooked for a couple of hours over a low heat with liquid. It should not be allowed to boil or the flavor will be spoiled. There is little agreement as to the classic recipe - should there be carrots? Should the meat be browned? Should mutton, lamb, beef, bacon or even kid be used? The following dish will be found to be hearty and nourishing and traditional enough.

LEARNING CORNER



IDIOMS

- ✓ **To do something in/by leaps and bounds:** to make rapid progress or growth.

The number of people visiting the city has grown in leaps and bounds.

- ✓ **Not for all the tea in China:** not to do something under any conditions.

I wouldn't date him for all the tea in China.

PHRASAL VERBS

- ✓ **Pass away:** To die.

The old man passed away peacefully at the age of 100.

- ✓ **Vouch for:** To express confidence in, or guarantee something.

You can lend him the car, I can vouch for him..

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

- Movie of the month: Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows
- Culture: Valentine's day



SKYLINE

Magazine



January 2012