

# SKYLINE

*Magazine*

**ISSUE # 4**



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# Welcome back

**SKYLINE**  
Magazine

*Here we are again! Before telling you about what we have done and what is going on, there is something much more important to communicate you all. Our colleague, Natalia Sylwia, gave birth on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February to a beautiful baby girl and I would like to welcome her to the world. So, there it is, we have a new member in our Skyline Family!*

*We have started 2012 stronger than ever and this last month we carried out the second Pronunciation Workshop, I hope you are taking advantage of it.*

*In this issue, Natalia starts a series about Tokyo in the Travelling Corner in which we will learn about Japan, its culture and some curiosities that she saw while she was there. Also, we get romantic in the Culture Corner due to Valentine's Day. Once again, one of our students takes us into fashion and this time she shows us some outfits at the Golden Globes. For those interested in cinema, we offer an article with everything you need to know about the Oscars. As always, you will have a list of some activities to do in February in our city. For the first time, your teacher Sara is collaborating with a delicious recipe of American cookies.*

*I want to thank, as every month, all of you, young and adult, because without your effort this magazine would not be possible.*

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

*Learn well*

*Maria Menéndez*  
**Skyline English Centre**

## MY FAMILY



My name is Sandra I'm six  
This is my family.



This is my dad.  
My dad works in an office.



This is my mum.  
My mum works in an office.



This is my grandma.  
My grandma is a housewife.



This is me with my sister. Her name is Adriana. She's ten.



We're a happy family.

Sandra, 6

my family.



My name is Carla.  
I am a student.  
I am a six.



He is my brother.  
He is a baby. He is one.



He is my father.  
He is engineer.  
He is a 46.



She is my best friend.  
She is six.  
She is Carla.  
She is a nurse.



She is my mother.  
She is a housewife.  
She is a 44.



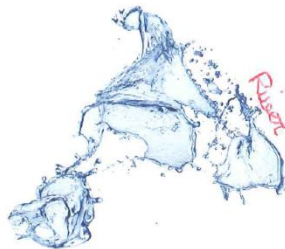
He is my cousin.  
He is football player.

Carla, 6.

## School trip

In october, I went to Castronuria by bus.

In Castronuria we made an environment workshop and I had a walked. The environment workshop was about the bracelet. In the walked we saw birds. It was next to the river. In the river there were lot of flowers. We ate in the park.





Victoria, 11

## Swimming

Swimming is a world sport.

Swimming is a competition.

The people swim in the water and swim very fast. The team swims in a swimmingpool. I like it because I love water and I love swimming, it is my favourite sport. The swimmer has a big back. The swimmer is strong.

The swimmer can swim very, very fast.

The olympic swimmingpools are 50m long. And the swimmingpools are normally 25m long.

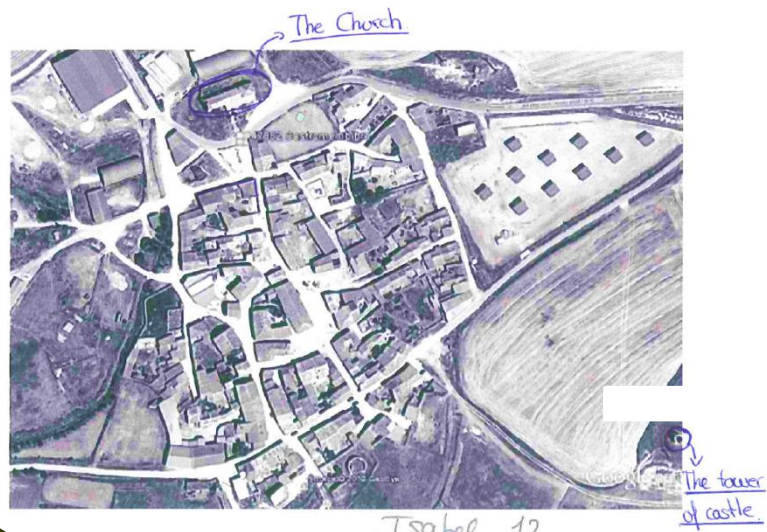
David Heca is an olympic swimming champion.

## Swimming



## My Village

When people usually talk about a village, they think of modern houses. But everything changes when you know my village. It is <sup>in</sup> the border of Valladolid and Zamora. Its name is "Castromembibre". It is small and it has 100 years of history. The houses are small and they have a very big courtyard. The main square is in the center of town as usually. There is a bar behind the town hall. In front of the hall, there is a fountain fouded in 1970. The church is at the entrance of the village. It's very old! Last year, pictures of Templars from 1000 years ago were found. At the top of the hill, there was a castle bigger than the church, but now there is only a small tower. It looks like a ghost town, but in fact, it is more than a village. For me it's like my home. There are many new and nice places to visit around. People that you can meet <sup>here</sup> are the kindest that you can imagine. There are also many children, especially in summer. I hope some day you may know these great places, although they seem simple and boring, they are fantastic!



Isabel, 12.





# Tweets of the month



**bobsaget** bob saget

Today is the first day of the rest of your life. And if that doesn't work out for you, Tomorrow is the first day of the rest of your life...

1 de ene



**italiaricci** italia ricci

Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass...it's about learning how to dance in the rain.

6 de ene



**SkylerSamuels** Skyler Samuels

"Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first." - Mark Twain

14 de ene



**Stanford** Stanford University

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. - Martin Luther King

16 de ene



**paulocoelho** Paulo Coelho

We deserve all the good things that happen to us. Don't feel guilty!

24 de ene



**KatGraham** Kat Graham

"Talent is God given. Be humble. Fame is man-given. Be grateful. Conceit is self-given. Be careful." -John Wooden

25 de ene



**Send us your favourite tweets**  
**@skylinecentre**

**Also on** 

# News

## What to do

✓ If you are an animal lover, do not hesitate, visit Filmascota on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of February at Feria de Valladolid. There will be exhibitions and contests with cats, dogs, birds... The show is organized by The Canine Castilian Society and groups from different parts of the world will take place.



✓ The sixth edition of UNITOUR will take place on the 16<sup>th</sup> of Feb. at Feria de Valladolid. This is the place to go if you need information about your future; private and public universities will have stands to answer all your questions and to inform you about the options ahead of you.

✓ On the 11<sup>th</sup> of Feb. children will travel to the 1930s through those rhythms of Swing and Jazz. A fantastic opportunity for kids to know about other times and enjoy them. If you feel like dancing, don't miss it, visit the Science Museum!

✓Who doesn't remember *The Sound of Music*! Calderon Theatre gives us the chance to live a wonderful experience with a play based on the book *The Story of the Trapp Family Singers* with all the famous songs. A good activity for all the family.



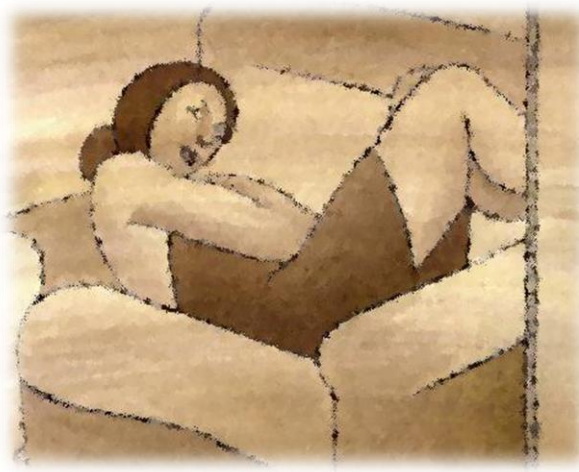
## Dreams or not

It was a dark night and Clara left the nightclub where she was with her friends. Suddenly, a big black car arrived. It was a car that she knew well; it belonged to Erick, the man she was in love with. Erick was a broad-shouldered man, whose most striking feature was not his height but his warm brown eyes.

When he got off the car and walked straight towards her she couldn't believe it. Although she was gorgeous, she couldn't think that he could feel anything for her. Then, both of them stayed together until he suggested taking her back home. Therefore, she went to the car and both got lost in the darkness of the night.

Erick took her to a breathtaking hill where they could see the amazing city under their feet, but, what she didn't know was that they weren't alone in the forest; a couple of cold blue eyes were staring at them. Completely silent the mysterious man, whose deep blue eyes contrasted with his sinister pure black clothes and his hideous tattoo on his left arm, arrived to the parking lot. Suddenly, a bright light lighted up his skulled face. At that moment, Clara looked at her left and saw his face – “Wow!! I can't believe it! He is the wanted man that we saw in the news!” – “What was his name?” – “Alex” As soon as she answered herself she saw a shiny object on his hand.

Suddenly, the sound of a bullet cut the air, breaking the window of the car and getting lost forever in the dark forest. Alex stood stunning thinking how he could have missed that shot, so he shot again. After killing Erick he ran towards Clara in order to shoot her. Fortunately, the noise of a car woke her up; “It had been only a dream” she thought relieved. She took a deep breath and looked at her right; Erick was driving the car.





# Movie of the month



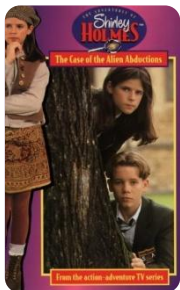
## SHERLOCK HOLMES

### A GAME OF SHADOWS

Sherlock Holmes was created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859–1930), a Scottish physician. Holmes was first introduced to the world in the adventure *A Study in Scarlet* and, since then, he was featured in 56 short stories and four novels. Apparently, Holmes was based on one of the teachers at the medical school of Edinburgh University, Dr. Joseph Bell. This teacher made an impression on young Doyle due to his ability to reach logical conclusions from little evidence. Holmes is a consulting detective who shares his professional years with Dr. Watson; they lived together until Watson got married and after his wife died. The character of Sherlock Holmes has the Guinness World Record to the “most portrayed movie character” with over 75 actors playing the part since he first appeared on television in 1937.

### TV and movie adaptations

The BBC created the first regular TV series in 1951.



Canada also has its own version, in this case about Holmes' great-grandniece.

In July 2010 the BBC aired a present-day version of Holmes.

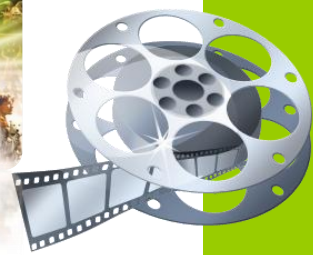
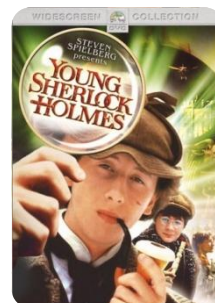


Billy Wilder directed in 1970 *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes*.

Even Spielberg tried a different version of Holmes at a boarding school in 1985.



Alan Wheatley as Holmes







# Movie of the month



## SHERLOCK HOLMES A GAME OF SHADOWS



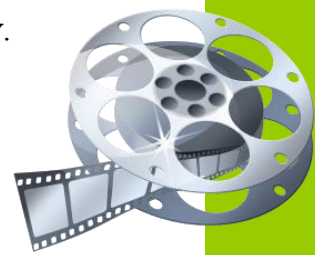
In 2009 Guy Ritchie directed his film *Sherlock Holmes*, since it was a huge success – its box office on the opening day was \$24.6 million – he decided to give it a second try in 2011, this time with *Sherlock Holmes, Game of Shadows*, not that successful now, the box office went down to \$14.6 million on its opening. They are two independent films, the plot is completely different, so, we can see the second installment without any knowledge of the first one.

This time Sherlock Holmes faces Professor Moriarty who is planning to engineer World War I some 23 years early by using anarchists to blow up French and German dignitaries in such a way as to annoy both countries.

According to the director, the movie is based on Conan Doyle's *The Final Problem* although the only similarity to it is the appearance of the villain. It is clearly not a strict adaptation to the novels, we could say that is either an independent adaptation or a reinvention of the story and the characters. Critics agree in one thing, it is not an incredibly good film but it is quite entertaining, full of humour and style.



The worst thing of the film is the anachronistic wardrobe. And there is not doubt that the best thing is Robert Downey Jr., his performance is quite outstanding, he fakes a British accent without strangling his acting, he tries ridiculous disguises without stop being the same character and he creates a very nice duo with Jude Law.





The Golden Globe Awards, the prelude to the Oscars, took place on January 15th 2012.

You can see the awarded actors as well as other important actors. I won't talk about the awarded films but I'm talking about their outfits, their hairstyle and their make up, their good and bad choices.

In hairstyle, we could see both tied up and loose hair.

Most actresses chose black and nude for their dresses but we can see other colours as pink or purple. In general the gowns were long except Ariel Winter whose dress was shorter.



This year the actresses were elegant and simple, with some exceptions like Lea Michele.

The actors were wearing black suits and tuxedos except Ty Burrell who was wearing a white jacket.





In my opinion the best dressed was Angelina Jolie. She was wearing a long nude dress with a natural make-up and tied up hair, she showed contrast with her red complements.



The worst dressed was Sarah Michelle Gellar. She was wearing a blue and white heart-shaped strapless gown. The problem was that the dress was too baggy and the print was exaggerated. At least her hairstyle and make up were nice.

I like these awards because I can see what they wear and I can see the trends.

We can't wait until the Oscars!





# THE OSCARS



Two years after its creation in 1927 the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) decided to choose the best motion pictures of the year. Today we know this as The Academy Awards Ceremony. The first was held on May 16, 1929 at Hotel Roosevelt, Hollywood having announced the winners three months in advance, it was not until 1941 that the winners were revealed at the ceremony.

The organization is composed of almost 6,000 members who vote to choose the best performances, directors, makeup artists, original songs, scripts...being the international firm Pricewaterhouse Coopers in charge of the auditing.

The film must have been release between Jan 1<sup>st</sup> and Dec 31<sup>st</sup> in LA County. This is important to know because we may find a film which was released some time before but until it is not released in LA County, it is not eligible for the Oscars, for instance, Charles Chaplin's Limelight was produced in 1952, but it was not eligible for an award until 1972 because of this rule.

The minimum length of the film must be 40 minutes.



Since its creation, the ceremony has been held in different hotels and auditoriums in Los Angeles although the Kodak Theatre became its permanent home in 2002. The ceremony was first broadcasted on NBC in 1953, after that, it went to ABC in 1960 and came back to NBC in 1970. However, since 1976 it has been televised on ABC and it will continue this way at least until 2014. In Spain, the channel in charge of the ceremony is Canal+.





# THE OSCARS



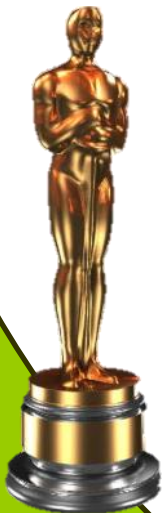
Since 1999, the ceremony has been held on a Sunday, and only three times in its whole history it failed to take place as scheduled:

1938: it was delayed one week due to a flood in LA.

1968: it was postponed two days because of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

1981: it was delayed for 24 hours as there had been an assassination attempt on President Reagan.

Any good award ceremony must have a good host. There are two names that mean Oscars, Bob Hope who hosted the ceremony 18 times between 1939 and 1978 and Billy Crystal who has hosted it 8 times, every year there are rumours about his hosting again and this year host will be him once again. In recent years, actors such as Whoopi Goldberg, James Franco or Hugh Jackman have hosted the ceremony, some have been praised but usually this is a much criticized responsibility.



34 cm

Winners of an Academy Awards go down to history of cinema and it usually means a recognition beyond imagination, job offers and a name not only in Hollywood but worldwide. All this is symbolized with a statuette, a gold plated titanium statuette on a black metal base with less than 4 kg. (34 cm-13,5"). It was designed by Cedric Gibbons and sculpted by George Stanley. The model for the statue was the Mexican director Emilio Fernandez. As for the name Oscar, there are a lot of theories about the origin; it was only in 1932 that Walt Disney quoted the Oscar is his acceptance speech, and not until 1939 that the name was officially used by the Academy. The statuette belongs to the Academy, not to the winners, it cannot be sold if not to the Academy and the price is just that of \$1.

# THE OSCARS



## Oh my Oscar! Facts

- Walt Disney hold 22 awards and 4 honorary awards.
- Composers John Williams has 47 nominations.
- The oldest person getting an Oscar was Jessica Tandy at the age of 81 for *Driving Miss Daisy*.
- The youngest person with an award is Tatum O'Neal, 10, for *Paper Moon*.
- The first black performer to attend the ceremony and win was Hattie McDaniel for *Gone with the Wind*, she had to seat in a segregated part of the auditorium.
- In 1942 Irving Berlin presented the Award for best song and he won it himself.
- Only 3 movies have got the 5 top awards, Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Screenplay. They are: *It happened one Night*, *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *The Silence of the Lambs*.
- Lord of the Rings: Return of the King* (2003), *Titanic* (1997) and *Ben-Hur* (1959) have the Record in number of awards won in one ceremony.
- Meryl Streep has the record in number of nominations, 15 and two wins.
- Turning Point* (1977) and *The Color Purple* (1985) had 11 nominations but not even one win.
- Kathryn Bigelow was the first woman to be awarded as best director in 2009 for *Hurt Locker*.
- Marlon Brando didn't accept his Oscar for *The Godfather* in 1972 because of the mistreatment of Native Americans.



The number of categories has changed throughout the years; at the beginning there were only 15 categories and today we count 25, for example, Best Foreign Film category was not added until 1957. Some categories were added and others retired, for instance, best dance director or Academy Juvenile Award among others.

# THE OSCARS



## The nominees

### Best Picture

The Artist  
The Descendants  
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close  
The Help  
Hugo  
Midnight in Paris  
Money Ball  
The Tree of Life  
War Horse



### Directing

Martin Scorsese (Hugo)  
Alexander Payn (The Descendants)  
Michel Hazanavicius (The Artist)  
Woody Allen (Midnight in Paris)  
Terrence Malick (The Tree of Life)

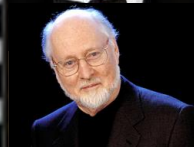
### Actor in a Leading Role

Demián Bichir (A Better Life)  
George Clooney (The Descendants)  
Jean Dujardin (The Artist)  
Gary Oldman (Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy)  
Brad Pitt (Money Ball)

### Actress in a Leading Role

Glenn Close (Albert Nobbs)  
Viola Davis (The Help)  
Rooney Mara (The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo)  
Meryl Streep (The Iron Lady)  
Michelle Williams (My Week with Marilyn)

*And the Oscar goes to...*



# Valentine's Day



Valentine's Day is celebrated on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February all around the world, however, the origin of this festivity is quite unknown and there are different theories about this. One of the most popular legends tells that Valentine was a Roman priest in the third century under Emperor Claudius II, who ambioned more and more lands. For the emperor the best warriors were those who did not have a home to come back, that is those who were not married, hence, he made marriage illegal for young men. Valentine did not approve of this at all and he went on marrying people in secret. Unfortunately, this did not last for long and, when the emperor found out about it, he imprisoned Valentine. Claudius ordered that he be put to death. While he was in jail he fell in love with the jailor's daughter who visited him quite often and he wrote a note to her that read "Love, from your Valentine". It is believed that he was executed on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February, 270AD.



Today, Valentine's Day is celebrated in a lot of countries and has been this way for centuries now. *The Parlement of Fouls*, by Geoffrey Chaucer, is the first reference to the concept of St. Valentine's Day as a special day for lovers. This was written in the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

People usually exchange cards and gifts such as flowers or chocolates.

According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion Valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year, after Christmas, of course.





# Valentine's Day



## Love Sayings



"Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies".  
*Aristotle*

"My bounty is as boundless as the sea, My love as deep; the more I give to thee, The more I have, for both are infinite".  
*William Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet*

"Love is life. All, everything that I understand, I understand only because I love. Everything is, everything exists, only because I love".

*Leo Tolstoy*

"Gravitation can't be held responsible for people falling in love".  
*Albert Einstein*

"All you need is love".  
*John Lennon*

"Love is of all passions the strongest, for it attacks simultaneously the head, the heart, & the senses".

*Lao Tzu*

"At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet".

*Plato*

"Neither a lofty degree of intelligence nor imagination nor both together go to the making of genius. Love, love, love, that is the soul of genius".

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*





## Tokyo Diaries

# 1.0

# 東京都

### Facts in a glance!

**Area:** 2,187 sq km

**Population:** 13 million

**Country:** Japan

**Governor:** Shintarō Ishihara

**Time Zone:** GMT/UTC+9

**Telephone Area Code:** 03

The first time I landed on Asia was in China, Shanghai. My first impression was chaotic, crowds, fakes of everything and people who only wanted to work twenty four hours a day and sell everything they make! For twenty four hours a day!

One year after that, the night before I was catching my plane to Japanese lands, images of geishas, temples and the most and last fashionable electronic gadgets came to my mind while I was packing. Just as you mention "Japan" and it evokes a cascade of old temples, futurist cities, mountains wrapped in clouds and trains which run at the speed of light! And this is true! So my second time in Asia was going to be the discovery of a very different culture, awesome people and definitely the knowledge of the modern and traditional synthesis, one of the reasons why to travel to Japan is a fascinating experience.

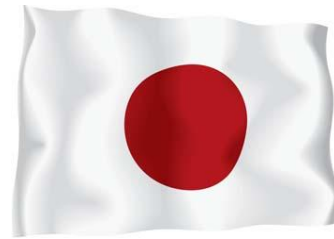


# TRAVELLING CORNER

## Tokyo Diaries 1.0



Tokyo is Japan's capital and the country's largest city. Only a few cities can stimulate our imagination on such a contradictory way as Tokyo does. Skyscrapers rows and neon lights flash to the rhythm of advertising billboards in Shinjuku streets, office workers wearing dark suits walk through Ginza together with impeccably dressed women who have lunch carrying Prada and Louis Vuitton handbags, train wagons fill up with people who crowd on rush hours.....while temples and sanctuaries give the smell of incense off and Aikido, a martial art, is practised to bring body and mind into line with everything in the universe. Tokyo is also one of Japan's 47 prefectures, but is called a metropolis (to) rather than a prefecture (ken). The metropolis of Tokyo consists of 23 city wards (ku), 26 cities, 5 towns and 8 villages.



Prior to 1868, Tokyo was known as Edo (literally “bay-entrance”), because of its situation next to the mouth of the “Sumida-gawa” river. As a small castle town in the 16th century, Edo became Japan's political centre in 1603 when Tokugawa Iyasu established his feudal government there. A few decades later Edo had grown into one of the world's most populous cities. With the Meiji Restoration of 1868, the emperor and capital were moved from Kyoto to Edo, which was renamed Tokyo ("Eastern Capital"). Large parts of Tokyo were destroyed in the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923 and in the air raids of 1945



# TRAVELLING CORNER

## Tokyo Diaries 1.0



Tokyo is a city that was razed to the ground twice in the 20th century, once by earthquake and once by wartime bombing raids. On each occasion Tokyo has risen from the ashes, but little of true historical value survives. Despite this, Tokyo still has the power to make you go 'Wow!'

The sense that nothing here is permanent has produced a city that renews itself at an unimaginable speed. From the futuristic new cityscapes of Odaiba or Roppongi Hills to the bustling shopping and entertainment centres of Shibuya and Shinjuku, all are fully functioning areas where the first time visitor runs the risk of neck-ache from craning up to see the neon signs or the summit of a skyscraper.



Tokyo Tower

Everyday I crossed the Tokyo Bay and I could see the Tokyo Tower before reaching the bridge. It was built in 1958; Tokyo Tower soars 333 meters, 13 meters higher than the Eiffel Tower. There are two observatories from which to get panoramic views of Tokyo, and Mount Fuji on a clear day. The Main Observatory is 150 meters high, the Special Observatory, 250 meters high. The tower is lit by 164 floodlights: orange in winter and incandescent white in summer.







## *Chocolate-Chip & Nuts Cookies*

### **Ingredients**

230 g margarine  
230 g (1 cup) softened butter  
2 cups packed brown sugar  
2 cups sugar  
4 eggs  
4 teaspoons vanilla extract  
2 teaspoons baking soda  
2 teaspoons salt  
6 cups flour  
4 cups of chocolate chunks  
1 cup (add-in chopped pecans or walnuts)



Preheat oven to 190°C.

Combine flour, baking soda and salt in a small bowl.

Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar and vanilla extract in large mixer bowl until creamy.

Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition.

Gradually, beat in flour mixture.

Fold in chocolate chunks and add-in..., amounts can vary depending on how “chunky” you prefer it.

Drop by rounded tablespoon onto ungreased baking sheets.

Bake from 9 to 12 minutes or until golden brown. Allow to cool for 2 minutes before removing from baking sheet.

This is a double batch, makes for dozen. They don't last long!



# LEARNING CORNER



## IDIOMS

- ✓ **To make the cut:** to reach a required standard, to pass one round in a competition..

*There were fifty applicants but only five made the cut.*

- ✓ **To shoot yourself in the foot:** To act against one's own interests.

*I shot myself in the foot by turning down that offer..*

## PHRASAL VERBS

- ✓ **Ease off:** to reduce, to become less severe or slow down..

*In my company, the workload eases off in September*

- ✓ **Tell off:** To reprimand, to criticize severely.

*My father told me off for failing the exam*

## IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

- Travelling Corner: Tokyo Diaries 2.0



- Culture: Saint Patrick's Day



# SKYLINE

*Magazine*



**February 2012**