

SKYLINE

Magazine

ISSUE #13



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Welcome back

SKYLINE
Magazine

So, apparently the world hasn't ended. That's good, especially for those who have New Year Resolutions, maybe, that's your case. I know it's mine. This year we are going to continue doing what we do best, teaching you English, trying our best to make children like the language and helping our adult students improving their qualifications so that they can get a job or a promotion this upcoming 2013. Do you think it is a coincidence that the first issue of 2013 is our issue # 13? Let's take it as fate and let's believe that 2013 will be lucky for us!

As you can see, this month our magazine is running a bit late but I know that those of you who always read us will be understanding with the delay. I promise that next month we will be on time.

Anyway, in this first issue of 2013 we have some articles about different traditions in Christmas, one from Spain written by a student, be gentle, it is his first time publishing and he did a great job; the other tradition is from Poland, as always Nata is teaching us new things.

*I hope you specially enjoy and get my suggestion to watching the film we are covering this month, *The Hobbit*. You will also find in the section "What to do" a poster of a very special event held by one of our students, check it out!*

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

Superpower

If I could have any superpower, I would choose to control water and read minds.

It would be great if there was no drought in the world. I would like to know what people think, and help them.



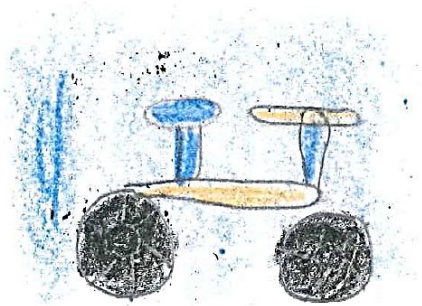
<u>Spanish</u>	Super	Agua
<u>English</u>	Super	Water

LAURA3

My Bike

Skyline
junior

This bike is purple and pink. The wheels are black and grey. It is for a girl aged 7-11. I like my bike.



My bike is blue and orange, it has got an orange seat. It's a bike for children aged 7-9. I ride my bike on Saturday.

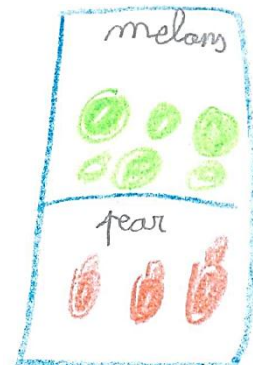
My bike is blue & it's black and big. It's 6-10 years old. I ride my bike on Saturdays and Sundays.



Sergio, Alberto & Pablo

MY SUPERMARKET

The supermarket has got melons but it hasn't
 pear. I like octopus and sausages. I don't like
 biscuits. It has got sweet is. It hasn't chocolate.
 It loves ham. I hate cauliflower. I like chicken.
 The supermarket hasn't got Bread. I don't like
 corn. I love banana. It has got eggs. I like
 carrots. I don't like hamburger. I don't like
 cucumber. The supermarket has got pears. I
 like lettuce. I hate bread. I love grapes.
 I like fish. It has got pepper. I don't like
 onion. I like fruit. I like Watermelon.



Sergio, 7



Tweets of the month



The Illuminati @TheIlluminati

7 Dec

Do the work others aren't willing to do, and you'll get the things others will never have.

Expand



matthew perry @MatthewPerry

20 Dec

There are three types of people in this world, people who can count, and people who can't.

Expand



Scott Porter @ScottPorter

21 Dec

I'm confused as to when this apocalypse actually begins. Was it supposed to start at midnight or is it when the sun goes down? IDK?

Expand



NICK ZANO @NICKZANO

31 Dec

Be safe, have fun and be appreciative for banking another year of this beautiful thing we call life. #2013

Expand



Will @WillyFerrell

31 Dec

How do they signal for Batman during the day?

Expand

Send us your favourite tweets
@skylinecentre

Also on 

News

What to do

✓ The Castilla y León Symphony Orchestra will perform with Diego Matheuz on January 18th and 19th in the Auditorium of Valladolid (Cultural Centre Miguel Delibes) at 20.00. The tickets will cost from 6 to 27 €.



✓ “The woman and the development in rural India”

Traditional handcraft financed with microcredit. The exhibition will be open from January 2nd to 26th, from Monday to Friday, from 12.00 to 14.00 and from 17.00 to 20.00. Guided visits are available as well as workshop but it is necessary to contact Casa de la India to book. (groups of at least 10 people). Entrance is free. The exhibition is organized by Casa de la India in collaboration with AECID and the Indian charity ACCESS.



✓ “Transport towards transparency”

The science Museum has been holding the exhibition for a while as part of the project “International Year of Sustainable Energy for everyone 2012”. Visitors will learn about the history of transport from the origins of human beings to the electric car during 45 minutes.

News

M

SABADO 19 ENERO
12:00 - 20:00 HRS.

BAR LIBERTAD
bajada Libertad 3

**ABIERTO A
TODO PUBLICO**

**Nuevo, vintage y
segunda mano.**

Ropa, calzado y accesorios.

Merry Christmas

I love Christmas because I think that it is a great time.

I've worked in a Kindergarten and I've seen how children enjoy this time; they write a letter to Santa Claus and the Three Wise Men, they decorate the Christmas tree and the Nativity, they have Christmas Holidays, they sing carols at school...

Every year, my family plays the Christmas lottery and I always dream of someday when I win the prize.

I send Christmas Cards to my friends and my family and I receive some Christmas Cards.

I like seeing the decorations and the Christmas lights in the street and I like going to the shopping centre to buy gifts for my family.

We decorate our house with: a Christmas tree (we decorate it with baubles and lights), stickers on the windows, Nativity, Christmas ornaments, we put a Christmas wreath on the door...

We always have Christmas dinner at my grandmother's house on Christmas Eve.

My young sister is 13 years old; when she was young Santa Claus came that night with presents. On Christmas Day we have a family meeting.



Merry Christmas

On New Year's Eve my old sister comes home, because she lives in Barcelona. This year we rented a country house in my village because we met a lot of members of my family. We had dinner there and we had a New Year's Eve party. It was a great idea!

On January, 5th, in the evening we usually go to see the Three Wise Men parade. We put our shoes with each of the names of the members of my family under the Christmas tree. We put three glasses of milk and nougats candy and when we wake up the next day the Three Wise Men will have eaten everything.

Epiphany, January 6th is a very important day for me because it is my birthday. I think I am unlucky because my family gives me the presents of my birthday and the present of the Three Wise Men the same day and although my family gives me great presents, I'm the one who loses out. The good part is that the most of the members of my family and my friends don't forget my birthday.

Also, I think that Christmas is a time where people spend a lot of money on unnecessary gifts (most of the time) and the people remember the members of their family who died, but above all...

I LOVE CHRISTMAS.



V. S. Pre-Intermediate

Living Nativity in Fuensaldaña

As these special days there are many Christmas performances throughout Valladolid. One of the most important one is living cribs. In Spain there are many representations and nowadays there are national meetings about this amazing event.

In the province of Valladolid particular cribs representations outstand in Laguna de Duero, Cabezón de Pisuerga and Fuensaldaña.

One of the living nativity scenes that I liked most is the one that took place in Fuensaldaña. The peculiarity is that it is static, yes! Nobody could move until the last person has seen all the representation. The almost 100 actors, including adults and children, have to endure freezing temperatures for more than two hours.

There are so many details that it makes you think that you are really in this period. Mill, orchards, vineyards, schools, blacksmithing, basketry, Pilate Castle. All jobs are represented: baker, waiter, wool, winemaker etc. Of course, the main attraction is the nativity because a part of the tradition is that the baby who represents Baby Jesus is a newborn from the town.



Living Nativity in Fuensaldaña

All has been possible during the last 10 years thanks to all the members of The cultural association “Castillo de Fuensaldaña “ and the neighbours of the village.

In my opinion it is absolutely incredible that this event is “free” because I really know , from my own experience , the hard work that they have to do to create it, starting two months before the first exhibition and finishing two months later because they have to keep all the parts of the scenery. I hope that this representation will never end and will become a tradition passing from father to son.

I am pleased to invite everyone to enjoy the performance that is celebrated on these dates every year in Fuensaldaña. I guarantee it will be a very nice activity to do in Christmas.

The performances take place at Fuensaldaña’s Castle.





Movie of the month

THE HOBBIT

"In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit. . ."

It was 1937 when J.R.R. Tolkien published a fantasy book called *The Hobbit*, and it was so successful that he had to work on a sequel, *The Lord of the Rings*. More than 60 years later, in 2001, director Peter Jackson decided to take the audience to a place called the Middle Earth, where different races lived, where magic existed, and where the battle between good and evil was an everyday issue. A fantastic story, an outstanding make-up, incredible visual effects and efficient performances proofed to be a recipe for success. Much has happened since then and, after a long wait for fans, Jackson has decided to carry out his project on *The Hobbit*, which was actually in his mind by 1995, before *The Lord of the Rings*. *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* is the first installment of what will be a trilogy, followed by *The Desolation of Smaug* and *There and Back Again*. Truth is that it was possible, in terms of storyline, of making *The Hobbit* into two films but producers have decided to get a third film, probably because of economical reason, thus, there is a little bit of mystery among the fans about that third installment, we will have to wait until 2014...





Movie of the month

THE HOBBIT

An old Bilbo Baggins introduces us to the story narrating a first action scene at the Lonely Mountain where the dwarves have to escape in a hurry due to the attack of the dragon Smaug. Bilbo himself was dragged into that adventure years before he wrote about it. To be exact, Gandalf dragged him into it. A hobbit, a wizard and thirteen dwarves led by Thorin, are the fellowship this time. Of course, we can find similarities with other familiar characters such as Frodo or Aragorn. A very positive aspect of this movie is that it ties in perfectly with *The Lord of the Rings*, since while you are watching you constantly remember the previous trilogy. It is, however, family-friendlier than the other movies and the humour is more directed to kids although this does not make it less spectacular.





Movie of the month

THE HOBBIT

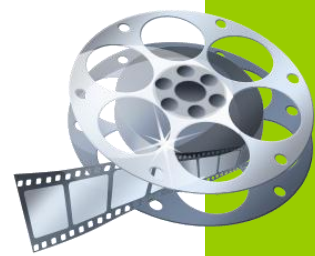
Technically, I would say is superior to the previous installments. First, in costume and make-up, the orcs, are much more “realistic”, the movements have a higher level of detail. However, what is pretty revolutionary about this film is Jackson’s choice to use the technique of 48 frames-per second combined with 3D technology. This makes the film to be hyper realistic, having those images on the foreground and those on the background the same resolution and sharpness, if you combine this with the 3D technology, the result is a unique experience, full of surprises, and taking into account that this is an action film with a great amount of stunts, I recommend it to watch it in 3D. Finally the music must not be forgotten since Howard Shore makes an excellent choice of tunes for each moment.



The best of the film: coming back to the Middle Earth, the story and the visual effects.

Not so good: some scenes that could have been omitted.

Don't miss: a fantastic scene with Bilbo and some old “friend” of the audience.



THE STAR AT THE CHRISTMAS TABLE

The Christmas dinner is a deeply-rooted tradition in the majority of Christian countries. However, again I'd like to invite you to the heart of Europe, Poland, where the Christmas traditions vary considerably from those in Spain.

First of all, remember that in Poland, it gets dark much earlier than in Spain. In winter, you turn on your lamps at about four o'clock. (For this reason, I absolutely adore the place I live currently!) The children gather on the balconies or at the window peering at the sky in the pursuit of the first star (a symbol of the star of Bethlehem, that guided the Three Wise Men to Jerusalem) Meanwhile, their parents put the gifts under the Christmas tree in order the children to believe that's the star job (veeery clever!). When the dwarfs finally shout: I can see the first star! They run to the living room to see if the presents are there. The excitement fills every house. But the children know very well, that the gifts must wait until the dinner is over...



When the dinner begins, everybody shares a special kind of wafer and has to say something positive to the rest of the relatives and even to pets. It's an excuse to open your heart and express towards your beloved things you don't have time to say throughout the year.

THE STAR AT THE CHRISTMAS TABLE

Then, the dinner is ready to start. You can always see at the Christmas table one more cover in case a lonely person comes to your house asking for something to eat. There are also twelve different dishes that symbolize the twelve disciples of Jesus Christ. Your stomach can actually burst when you finish. All of the dishes have to be according to the fast tradition, without meat, for example: beetroot soup with ravioli, mushroom soup, fish soup, carp in jelly (I don't like it), cabbage with peas, beans with dried plums, rice balls, poppy cake, stewed fruit, dumplings with edible fungus and cabbage, honey pie, fried fish... it's of course obligatory to eat a little of every dish and if you don't follow this rule, it will bring bad luck in the following year so nobody takes this risk.



After dinner, children unwrap their presents and sing carols. At exactly midnight, the senior of the house goes to a separate room with the pets (if there are any) because they are supposed to speak in human language. In the countryside, the senior goes to the barn and “speaks” with the farm animals. Then he tells the children what they said and everybody laughs a lot.

Christmas in Poland is taken very seriously. Nobody can violate the traditions, and the rules are transferred from generation to generation.

Pamplona



Pamplona is a city located in the centre of the Foral Community of Navarre, around 400 km North West from Madrid. As it is surrounded by mountains, the plain of the basin has always favoured settlement. The first Vascon settlement gave it the name of Iruña, which means “the city”, name that will predict what was about to come. When the Romans arrived there they named it Pompaelo, and understood it as a strategic link between the peninsula and Europe. After being conquered by the Visigoths and the Moors, King Sancho Garcés II was so thankful to God for the recovery of the city that he handed it in to the church. In the 16th century, after its inclusion within Castile, the city was considered an entrance for French invaders and was fortified, it remained entirely walled until 1915, when some of its walls were demolished.

Pamplona is a very green city, highly concerned about the environment. All along the city you can find a number of parks; however, nothing compares to Yamaguchi Park, which has 85.00 m² and is located in one of the most modern parts of the city. Pamplona and Yamaguchi, a Japanese city close to Hiroshima, have been sister-cities since 1980 as a celebration of the evangelization of the country by San Francisco Javier, patron saint of Navarre. The park was made in 1997 in western style, with elements brought from Japan itself. There is a little pond and some bridges, a cascade and even a geyser in the lake. Inside the park you can also visit the Planetarium, which has the largest dome in the world with a diameter of 20m. Since it was built in 1993 it has held numerous scientific exhibitions and has become a cultural reference point. Around the park, there are a lot of shops, cinemas and cafés, which makes the area perfect for a stroll of even a day out.



Pamplona



As mentioned above, Pamplona is a green city and, of course, they have a system in which citizens can rent a bicycle to avoid using their cars and, therefore, to avoid pollution. Nowadays, the city has 101 bicycles but there are plans of increasing that number to 350. They have been using this system since 2007 and it is very affordable since the first hour of use is for free and later you only pay 1 € per hour. As well, there are five returning points around the city which makes it comfortable for the users.

Pamplona is internationally known for its "fiesta", San Fermín. From July 6th to 14th, rivers of people wearing red and white can be seen all around the city. Every day in the morning the Bull Run takes place and it is the only moment with tension in the festivity. Thanks to Ernest Hemingway and his inclusion of this tradition in his novel *The Sun also Rises*, the San Fermín are famous everywhere. He first arrived in Pamplona in 1923 and loved it so much that came to Spain repeatedly, especially to this city, he even ran before the bull! Currently, thousands of foreigners visit the city in July, following Hemingway's footsteps.





Bourbon Mashed Sweet Potatoes

Ingredients

3 pounds garnet sweet potatoes, peeled
and cut into 1 inch chunks
Salt
3 to 4 Tbsp of bourbon whisky
4 Tbsp butter (more or less to taste)
4 Tbsp brown sugar (more or less to taste)
2 teaspoons vanilla extract



1 . Place the sweet potato chunks in a large (5 quart) pot, cover with water. Add a tablespoon of salt to the water. Bring to a boil. Cook until tender, about 15 to 20 minutes.

2 . Drain the cooked sweet potatoes and return them to the pot on the stove. Lower the heat to low. Add the bourbon and the butter to the pot and stir. Add the brown sugar and vanilla extract and stir. Mash with a potato masher until smooth. Add more salt, bourbon, butter, and brown sugar to taste.

LEARNING CORNER



IDIOMS

- ✓ **Every cloud has a silver lining:** You can derive some benefit from every bad thing that happens to you.

Don't worry. It will be all right. Every cloud has a silver lining

- ✓ **Drive someone up the wall:** To irritate and/or annoy very much.

I quit my job because my boss drove me up a wall every time I went to work.

PHRASAL VERBS

- ✓ **Mess up:** Spoil or ruin

They messed up the discussions and the contract fell through.

- ✓ **Talk through:** Guide someone through an issue.

the teacher talked me through the test so i knew what to expect.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

- Movie of the month: Silver Linings Playbook
- Culture: Golden Globes



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January 2013