

A Day in the Life of a Dragon

BY JAIDA LARKIN AND SOFIA SCOTTO
PUBLISHER AND PAGE EDITOR

Good morning, angels. Welcome to a day in my life as a Kent Place Upper School student. Here at Kent Place, we only foster and nurture the bravest and most brilliant girls. The following is a rough estimate as to what the average scholar-leader does throughout the day at this glorious institution.

First and foremost, the day needs to start off right. At Kent Place, the health and wellbeing of our girls is our top priority, so, everyday we ensure each student sleeps in to a reasonably restful hour: 3 AM. After two to three hours of homework and studying (light stuff like Russian literature, solving Collatz Conjecture, editing their fourth Scholastic award winning short story, polishing

their business plan for their Kombucha tea startup, etc.), our girls head over to breakfast, which usually includes a modest meal of our famous pork loin with a side of five dozen bagels. Our students take pride in their athletics just as much as they do their academics, so in the morning, they often can be found at the gym jogging a brisk 18 miles while simultaneously rehearsing their Spanish presentation out loud (#grinddontstop-boi). 100% of our student body identifies as an environmentalist of some form, so after their workout, the girls usually take a long, relaxing 2 second shower (because we have to save the elephants!).

Summit temperatures can reach an

excruciating heat of negative 18 degrees, so after hopping into either their shiny, new Jeep, Tesla, or Porsche, our students can take advantage of Kent Place's close proximity to Dunkin Donuts (large vanilla iced coffee only! NO hazelnuts! #nutfreezone). We value education and learning above numbers and grades here at Kent Place, which is why we have established a maximum amount of seven tests, 29 homework assignments, and 60 projects to be due on the same day, allowing our students to space out their time effectively and at their leisure. The rest of the academic day includes a minimum of seven APs, two online classes, and a three art electives. Sports then commence after the last block, so our

girls get home at an early 10 PM to easily whip through seven more hours of French, organic chemistry, multivariable calculus, Middle English literature, and Japanese history homework -- leaving just enough time for 1 full hour of sleep. And then it's lights out by sunrise!

As you can see, Kent Place girls are extremely hardworking and driven, but also know when to wind down and enjoy life! Nothing (including academics) is more important than a happy, healthy student. However, with the increasing amount of Kent Place students slacking off (taking only five APs and leading a paltry three clubs), some might have to consider applying to more safety schools like Harvard or Stanford!



Lil Pump to Headline Prom 2018

BY INDIA BERRY
STAFF WRITER

After the hard work of the Kent Place Social Committee, Committee President Charlotte Hagerty '18 is excited to announce that five-time Grammy Award winner Lil Pump will be performing at this year's prom. "We are beyond thrilled that Mr. Pump will

be making an appearance," said Hagerty. "I remember the first time I heard 'Gucci Gang.' It was a moment I will recount to my grandchildren and great-grandchildren." Mr. Pump is known for his influential and awe-inspiring masterpiece, "Gucci Gang." He finally agreed

to perform after an unnamed Kent Place student posted an emotional and beautifully choreographed Musically of Miranda Cosgrove's hit single "Kissin U" on YouTube, asking Mr. Pump to attend prom with her. Mr. Pump's attendance was requested by most, if not all of the

classes of 2018 and 2019, according to an Instagram poll and CNN. We know our Dragons cannot wait until May 31 to "dab" and "hit dat nae nae" to "Gucci Gang" with what critics are calling the next Beethoven. Esketit!

Inside This Issue...



A Starbucks is coming to our very own balls! Read more on page 2 about the new Dragon Frappuccino.



Do you really know your Vine culture? Test your smarts on page 2 with the AP Vine Exam. Do it for the Vine!



Read about the adventures of Lil Squeak on page 3 and see if we should switch our mascot from dragon to mouse.



In need of a new spring jam? Check out page 3 for an exclusive look at the newest Cardi B bop featuring a member of our community!

ballast

2017-2018

Editors-in-Chief

Vladimir Putin
North West
Miranda Cosgrove

Publisher

Beyoncé

Business Manager

Elon Musk

Art Editor

Pablo Picasso

Copy Editors

Honey Boo Boo
Oprah Winfrey

Permanent Page Editors


Ina Garten
Chrissy Teigen

Page Editors

Kris Jenner
Kourtney Kardashian
Kim Kardashian
Khloé Kardashian
Rob Kardashian
Kylie Jenner
Kendall Jenner

Advisors

Taylor Swift
Kanye West



Completed
In Progress
Overdue

**ART CREDIT:
MICHAELA MARKELS**

BY SHEFALI KAMILLA AND ELIZABETH WYSHNER
STAFF WRITERS

Attention, lovers of Frappuccinos and cake pops! A Starbucks will be opening in our very tiled area by the Great Room. This amazing partnership will give students a chance to have non-stop access to their favorite coffee chain while remaining in the comfort of the Kent Place School campus.

We all have those days when we just don't come to school because we're too tired or simply just don't want to change out of our comfy sweatpants. But all those problems could melt away once students remember that they could buy a nice Starbucks iced coffee filled with (a little bit too much) cream and sugar upon their arrival at school. Or when you get hungry in the middle of the day, just pop on over to the tiled area and pick up a chocolate croissant. Better yet, you don't even have to go down to the dinning hall to pick up lunch! Sprint right over to the tiled area, grab a sandwich and head right back to the lounge for a quality last minute cram session. And don't worry about the "no lunch in the main building" rule because a Starbucks sandwich is in no way a lunch, but a high quality hunger-destroying gem.

This Starbucks will not cut any corners, with a full menu available, plus speciality drinks created just for the brave and brilliant. Trust us when we say that these drinks are not just sugary syrup and ice, they are handcrafted pieces of perfection that makes you savor every sip. The first is a Dragon Frappuccino, consisting of a lemon and lime

base, layered resemble a green and gold explosion in your cup. This drink is then topped off with whipped cream and an edible Chumley the Dragon cookie. The next treat is bagel carved in the shape of a dragon and filled with cream cheese. Everyone knows that bagels are a hot commodity for Kent Place girls and Starbucks hopes to supply all KPS students will bagels by May 2018. Lastly, Starbucks created a Brave and Brilliant KPS inspired cake pop. It consists of white cake dyed green and gold and covered with vanilla frosting. It is then rolled in green and gold sprinkles, giving the consumer a serious sugar rush (and



a headache for their teacher). Deliciousness is just a few steps away.

You must be wondering about the rodent problem and how a Starbucks could potentially nourish our critter friends. Well don't you worry! The Starbucks stand will be sprayed with permanent rodent repellent that is scentless to humans. Rodents and humans can live in harmony, but not around our venti Frappuccinos! (#RIPLilSqueak)

So make sure to bring some extra money so you can buy all the treats available at the new Starbucks opening right in the tiled area. America may run on Dunkin, but KPS runs on Starbucks.

The Adventures of Lil Squeak

BY ADITHI JAYARAMAN, GRACE MORRIS, AND SONIA PARMAR
STAFF WRITERS

These past few months, an unexpected little visitor paid visit to the Kent Place community. This little mouse, or "Lil Squeak" as he has come to be known as, has made himself at home in the Kent Place building. However, before he could completely settle in, he had to choose the best fitting room for her stay. So, just like the prospective families and students, Lil Squeak went on a tour. Of course, his favorite spots were the ones decorated with crumbs of food. He fell in love with bagels, especially the ones with cream cheese. Several questions also came up as he scurried through the noisy hallways, trying to avoid being stepped on by pairs of Vans. He wondered why there were so many plastic cups with green mermaids painted on them; they seemed to be everywhere she looked, one day he even made camp in one (it was empty, of course)! As the nights passed and the mornings came, Lil Squeak grew fond of the Kent Place community and immersed himself in the KP sisterhood; he sat in a few classes and even participated a couple of times, he enjoyed a three-course meal almost everyday, and he especially loved listening to the beautiful voices of the Chamber Singers. In fact, he tried to audition, but unfortunately, his voice just didn't cut it. Lil Squeak soon began to notice that this

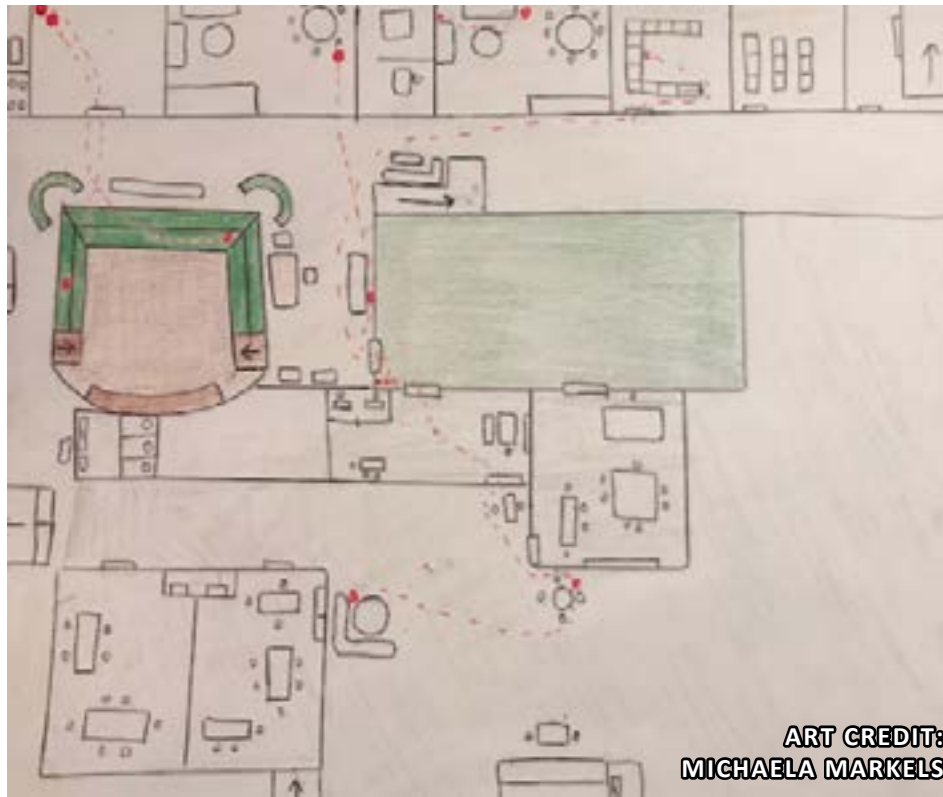
fondness was not mutual. His human friends either screamed or ran away when he tried to make small talk and sometimes, they would even lock him up for hours in some dark and scary closet. Let's just say this was a one-sided friendship. Here are some words from the people who Lil Squeak tried to befriend; unfortunately the encounters did not end well:

Isabelle Zeidner '20: "I was sitting in English when it scurried from out of the closet. Next thing I know

it jumped over my and Shefali's desk! One of the most memorable experiences of my life at Kent Place."

Keerthi Jayaraman '19: "Although, I never got to actually see the mouse, I was in two classrooms in which the mouse was spotted. I remember how no one believed that there was a mouse in the classroom, but now it is quite evident that there are mice all over our school!"

Ms. Greene: "Lil Squeak paid visits to the Math Studio and the study



rooms, but she never personally visited my classroom. Maybe it's because I keep my room pretty cold, but I'm not complaining"

Jilly Sher '19: "During Chamber Singers class, we were singing in Ms. Thomas' room when, all of a sudden, I saw a tiny, brown mouse scurry across the floor. I grabbed on to the person next to me and jumped onto my chair. Most of us didn't see the mouse, but the overall reaction was enough to get people jumping onto anything but the floor. The mouse ran straight into the hole made for electric cords in the floor, and even though it was quickly gone, we all ran out the door and had class in a different room. From now on, there's no food allowed in the music wing!"

Even though the eventful friendship between Lil Squeak and the Kent Place community was short-lived, he thanks us all for providing him with a warm home during the cold winter months. He says he will miss the lovely scent of Dunkin' Donuts in the morning, watching the intense spike ball tournaments from the sidelines, and spinning around on the chairs in the Math Studio. He will take our lively spirits with his to the next stop on his journey, perhaps to the Oak Knoll sports fields or to the tempting aromas of the Oratory cafeteria.

AP Vine: The Exam

BY NAOMI GORDON
STAFF WRITER

Were you even on Vine? Do you understand the critical impact Vine had on our society? Can you comprehend and explain the artistry, mastery, and skill that goes into creating a viral Vine? Most importantly, do you still mourn the death of Vine to this day?

Take the AP Vine Exam to prove that you are an OG #Viner. ReVine for reVine, anyone?

The first section will contain 7 multiple choice questions. Begin channeling your inner influencer.

1. "I smell like _____. "
a. Yogurt
b. Croissants
c. Beef
d. Potato

2. "Um Jared, could you read number 23 for the class?" "No, I cannot" "Whaddup, I'm Jared, I'm ____ and I never learned how to read"
a. 19
b. 29
c. 15
d. 1

3. "Stop! I coulda dropped my _____!"
a. Croissant
b. Tortilla
c. Dorito
d. Chicken

4. "Hi, welcome to _____."
a. My crib
b. Wendy's
c. Chili's
d. Applebee's

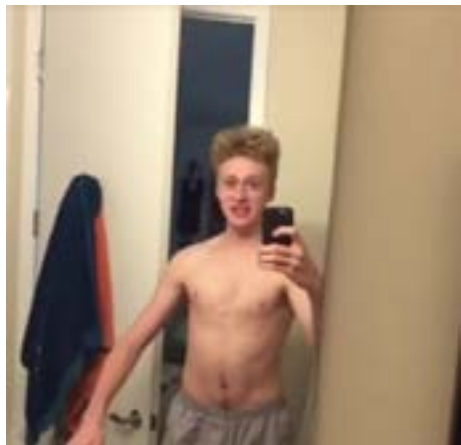
5. "Merry _____."
a. Crimus
b. Chrysler
c. Crisis
d. Both b and c

6. "I spilled _____ in your Valentino bag" "Lipstick, wha wha wha WHAT?!"
a. Cat food
b. Black Lipstick
c. Red Lipstick
d. Sandwich

7. "When there's too much drama at school, all you gotta do is _____."
a. Do some legitness
b. SAIL!

8. "Hurricane Katrina? More like Hurricane _____!"
a. Quesadilla
b. Tortilla
c. Katniss
d. Gorilla

SCORING RUBRIC
5 - 8/8 correct: Congratulations, you are an OG viner. Welcome to the club.
4 - 7-6/8 correct: You probably missed one or two because you were so sentimental from reminiscing over Vines during the test, so we forgive you.
3 - 5/8 correct: Maybe you arrived to Vine a year late?
2 - 4/8 correct: You definitely only watch compilations. What a disgrace. You never got the real, authentic experience of watching these on the original Vine app at 2 AM.
1 - 3/8 correct or less: You only know Vines from hearing friends quote them. I'm truly sorry your tween years were not as fulfilled as they could've been.

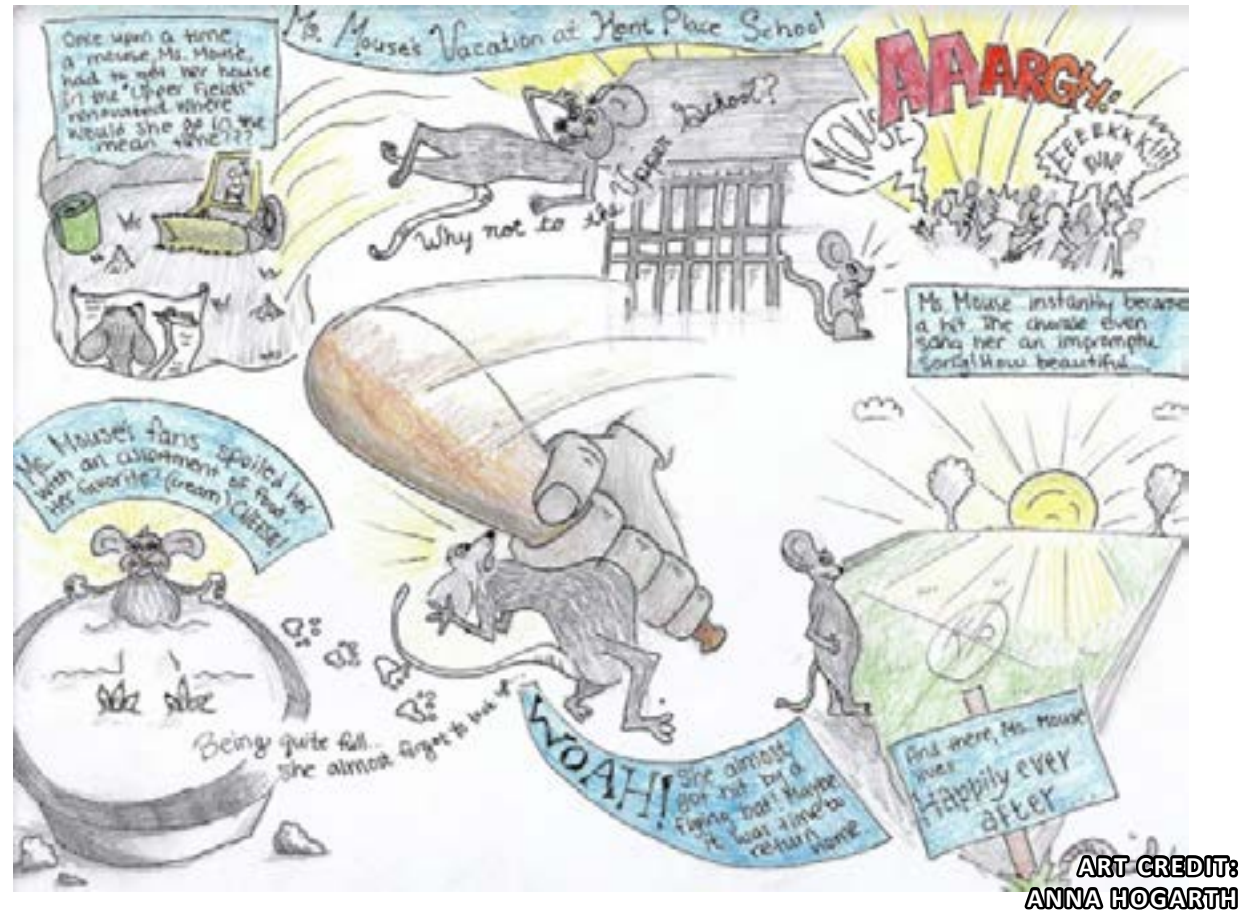


You'll Never Guess Who Has A New Single

BY KEERTHI JAYARAMAN AND SOFIA KWON
BUSINESS MANAGER AND COPY EDITOR

GET READY KENT PLACE! A new collab is coming our way. New reports that Cardi B is creating a new song with none other than the one and only Carty D. Although Carty D is the Snow Day King, his rhymes are truly nothing but fire. *Ballast* has received exclusive intel on some of the lyrics of this new song.

"Freezin' in Finesse"
Drop top Porsche (Porsche), Rollie on my wrist (wrist)
Ice up and down my chain (aha)
Carty D, straight stuntin', can't tell me nothin'
Called snow days and changed the game (you see me?)
I'm the Mardi Gras king, got all them girls shook (shook)
My snow day voicemails got all them girls hooked (hooked)
Went from 2 snow days last year to extra long spring break (ha)
KP sing to me while I do my snow day dance like ayy
Flexin' with my crown like ayy
Save the environment, okay (okay), okay (okay)
Oh yeah, we freezin' in finesse and getting paid, ow



According to an anonymous source, the track will be debuting on SoundCloud for an initial test-run -- rivaling the likes of seasoned SoundCloud rappers Lil Xan, XXXTentacion, Lil Uzi Vert, and one of our own alumni, Cash Money Chloe '17. "I'm so excited to be working with Carty D y'all," said Carti B, in response to *Ballast* reaching out for comment. "Apparently he's the next Biggie or Tupac. This track is so fire, it's icy. I'm hoping, you know, to collab with Lil Pump at Kent Place prom too, but we gotta see how it debuts on Spotify and all that. Can't wait for y'all to hear it." *Ballast* can't wait either!