

# Hello Washington! Volume 3 Issue # 8 April PART 1



## This Year WA Celebrated Its Community at the 20th Annual 4K Caminata!

What a fantastic morning we had on Sunday, April 14th, at the 20th annual Washington Academy 4K Caminata! Nearly 200 members of our school community – parents, students, faculty, and staff – came together for a fun-filled walk that celebrated our Washington family.

The energy was high as registration kicked off at 7:30 am, followed by the walk itself at 7:45 am. We cheered each other on as we traversed a safe route outside school grounds in Colinas de Valle Arriba, thanks to the cooperation of the police who closed down the streets for our event.

But the 4K Caminata wasn't just about the walk! It was a chance to connect, be active, and celebrate our school spirit. Water stations kept everyone hydrated along the route, and at the finish line, we enjoyed a well-deserved reward: medals, refreshing snacks and drinks, and fun activities like bounce houses and a Zumba class! Some of our sponsors, like Locatel provided high blood pressure screening, while Gatorade provided drinks throughout and after the walk.





A big thank you goes out to our dedicated Caminata Coordinator and her incredible team of helpers. Their hard work made this event a resounding success! And of course, a huge thank you to all who participated – you are what makes the Washington Academy community so special!

We can't wait to see you all at the 21st annual 4K Caminata!











## WA Welcomes Dr. Salazar: New On-Site Doctor!

We are thrilled to share that since April 1st, WA has a dedicated school doctor on site!

Dr. Jesús Joel Salazar, a highly qualified physician with expertise in Internal Medicine and Intensive Care, will be available to address any health concerns that may arise during the school day. Dr. Salazar, a graduate of Universidad Central de Venezuela, will be present in the school's health office from Monday to Friday, 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.



This exciting addition to our school community reflects our unwavering commitment to the well-being of everyone at Washington Academy – students, teachers, administrators, and maintenance staff alike. Dr. Salazar's role will be to provide primary medical care: In case of illness or minor accidents, Dr. Salazar will be readily available to offer immediate medical attention.

We are confident that Dr. Salazar's presence will be a tremendous asset to Washington Academy. With his expertise and dedication, we can create a healthier and more secure learning environment for everyone!

## WA Extracurricular Soccer and Volleyball teams participate at Copa Cumbres 2024!

High fives all around! Our incredible sub-7 soccer team dominated the competition at the highly anticipated Copa Cumbres! This annual intercollegiate event, hosted by Instituto Cumbres de Caracas, took place from April 2nd to 7th, and our young athletes brought home the bronze!

Imagine the cheers – a week filled with fierce competition against teams from across the city. Our soccer players showcased their footwork and teamwork, while our volleyball spikers served up some serious excitement. The talent, dedication, and school spirit were off the charts! Our sub-7 soccer players showcased their incredible skills, teamwork, and determination, ultimately taking the coveted 3rd place trophy!

We are so proud of all our soccer and volleyball players who participated in the Copa Cumbres. Their dedication, sportsmanship, and school spirit were truly inspiring.



# HMUN Team Update: Preparing for the 2025 Harvard Model United Nations Conference

We're excited to share an update on our school's Harvard Model United Nations (HMUN) Team! Over the past month, our dedicated Faculty Advisors have been busy promoting the program, overseeing the application process, conducting interviews, and finalizing the list of students who will represent our school at the 2025 conference in Boston.



HMUN is a prestigious four-day international relations simulation specifically designed for high school students. Students attending HMUN act as delegates from various countries, debating and discussing pressing global issues. Through diplomacy and collaboration, they strive to find creative solutions to these challenges. Renowned for its tradition and innovative approach, HMUN provides a valuable experience for all participants.

Selected students will embark on a rigorous preparation process leading up to the January conference. This includes in-depth research on assigned countries and their positions on global issues, developing persuasive arguments, honing public speaking skills, and practicing negotiation and collaboration techniques. It's a demanding but rewarding experience that helps students develop essential skills like:

- Public Speaking: delivering clear and concise arguments with confidence.
- Negotiation: finding common ground and building consensus among diverse viewpoints.
- Teamwork: collaborating effectively with peers towards a common goal.
- Problem Solving: analyzing complex issues and developing creative solutions.

The months leading up to the conference involve a significant commitment from both students and Faculty Advisors. We're fortunate to have a team of experienced advisors leading the HMUN program this year. All four advisors, Maria Antonieta Fernández, Alejandro Rivas, Tomás Parra, and Enrique Leizaola, are graduates of Universidad Metropolitana and possess vast experience in MUN-like activities conducted entirely in English. Their expertise and guidance will be invaluable in preparing our students for the challenges and opportunities that await them at the conference.



We motivate participant parents to show their support for our HMUN Team by:

- Offering encouragement: Let your child know you're proud of their hard work and dedication.
- Providing logistical support: Help with research, transportation, or any other needs that may arise during the preparation process.
- Staying informed: We'll be sharing updates on the team's progress throughout the year in upcoming newsletters and our school's social media.

We're confident that this year's HMUN Team will represent our school with distinction. By working together, we can ensure they have a successful and enriching experience at the conference!

## Meet the Team!

**11th Grade:** Ana Elisa Haydon, Clementina Haydon, Sofía Cartolano, Antonella De Santolo, Fabiana Berroterán, Daniela Youssef, Sofía Cases, Valeska Hannawi, Camila Hernández, Fernando de Ornelas, Juan Diego Peña.

**9th Grade:** Diego Ramírez, Aiskel Salazar.

**8th Grade:** Sofía Archila, Almudena López, Paula Spuches, Alejandro Vásquez, Elías Abilahoud.



# 12th Graders Make a Difference: Building Bridges with República de Indonesia public school!

Our incredible 12th Grade International Baccalaureate (IB) Community Action and Service (CAS) students spent April fostering connections and giving back to our community! Throughout the month, a dedicated group of four students: Diego Méndez, Camila Baldini, Victoria Phillips, and Andrea Lucy, collaborated with República de Indonesia, a neighboring public school.

The journey began with a visit to República de Indonesia. The CAS students met with the school's Principal to gain a firsthand understanding of their most pressing needs. This open communication laid the foundation for a project that would directly benefit the República de Indonesia community.

Fueled by a desire to help, the CAS students launched a school-wide food drive. Their hard work resulted in a generous collection of donations! But the giving didn't stop there. They also organized a special "Fun Day" for República de Indonesia's 2nd graders at our very own school.

The multipurpose room was transformed into a haven of laughter and learning. Supervised by their dedicated IB CAS teacher, the 12th graders hosted a delightful afternoon filled with engaging activities, delicious snacks, and refreshing beverages.

This initiative wasn't just about donations and activities. It was about building bridges between our schools and fostering a spirit of community. The smiles on the faces of the 2nd graders were a testament to the success of the project.

A big round of applause goes out to our amazing 12th graders and their dedicated teacher for their compassion, initiative, and hard work. They truly embodied the spirit of the IB CAS program and made a positive impact on our neighboring school community!



# A Look Back at the 5th Grade Science Fair!

On Friday, April 12th, the covered court was buzzing with excitement as our 5th graders showcased their amazing Science Fair projects! Since the beginning of the 2nd term, these young scientists have been hard at work following the scientific method to investigate a wide range of topics.

Students started by forming teams and brainstorming questions about the world around them. They then narrowed down their topics, formulated hypotheses, and designed experiments to test their ideas. After collecting and analyzing data, they drew conclusions and reflected on how their findings applied to the real world.

The day of the fair, the covered court was transformed into a science spectacular event! Their parents, teachers and students from all grades, and staff were invited to explore the exhibits, which covered everything from the impact of video games on heart rate to the density of liquids.

Here are the highlights:



- Jesús Arreaza, Matías Ortiz, and Alonso Valladares investigated the impact of video games on heart rate.



- Leticia Bravo, Amelia Viloria, and Valentina García investigated aerodynamics.



- Emma Chang, Sofía Díaz, and Sofía Vieira investigated solar ovens.



- Matteo De Prisco, Nicolás Hernández, and Tomás Paz studied potential and kinetic energy.



- Cristóbal Brewer, Alejandro Guilarte, and Fernando Tavares explored air pressure.



- Isabella Nunes, Santiago Ramos, and Elí Rivero learned about buoyancy.



- Victoria López, Sophia Pérez, and Clarissa Costa investigated changes of states of matter.



- Eduardo Renda, Juan Diego Romani, and Roberto Thiago Pestana studied the density of liquids.



- Valeria Bramanti, Sofía Hernández, and Emma Santini explored color and heat absorption.



- Daniella Pepe, Amanda Brewer, and Aitana Tobio researched sound.





- Matthias Quintero and Moisés Vieira learned about osmosis.



- Victoria De Lemos, Luciana Guánchez, and Paola Herrera explored chemical reactions in cooking.



- Aaron Benarroch, José Ignacio Fonseca, and Daniel Yehia explored magnetism, and created a linear magnetic accelerator!



- Luis Elías Ramírez and Samuel Vieira learned about electricity.

A huge round of applause goes to our fantastic 5th Grade science teacher, the head of the science department, and the upper elementary coordinator for guiding and supporting our young scientists throughout this incredible project.

This year's science fair was a resounding success, showcasing the curiosity, dedication, and scientific prowess of our 5th graders. We can't wait to see what amazing things they achieve next!



## Celebrating Art and Community at the InterArt: Diavolarium Auction!

This past April 13th, the InterArt 2023-2024 competition, themed "Diavolarium," hosted its exciting fundraiser auction at the Colegio Internacional de Caracas (CIC). While the original art expo location at the Centro Cultural de Arte Moderno in La Castellana shifted, the event at CIC proved to be a vibrant celebration of artistic talent and community spirit.



The day kicked off at 11 am with a captivating display of student artwork. At noon, the energy soared with a traditional Venezuelan performance featuring "Los Diablos de Yare" dancers! Following this electrifying act, the highly anticipated auction commenced at 12:30 pm.



Congratulations to all the schools that received prizes, including the prestigious CIC Excellence Award and the Fundación Fenice Larralde Award! While our amazing 11th graders' work didn't take home a prize this year, we at Washington want to give them a huge round of applause for their dedication and creativity! Their impressive mask, which was purchased by our very own school, will soon be proudly displayed on our grounds for everyone to admire.



Though we may not have snagged a trophy this time, the InterArt event serves as a fantastic reminder of the power of art to bring people together for a good cause. Hogar Bambi, the beneficiary of the auction, will undoubtedly benefit from the generous support. Let's use this as inspiration to keep honing our artistic skills and prepare to wow the judges next year!



## Sharpening Their Swords: WA Gears Up for Debate!

The British School of Caracas (TBSC) has been buzzing with debate fever recently. Buckle up, because we're about to delve into the exciting world of argumentation and friendly competition!

On April 13th, TBSC hosted a special Debate Training Workshop, extending a helping hand to students from other schools preparing for their own competition in May. A fantastic group of students participated, honing their skills and building confidence.

Inspired by the workshop's success, WA decided to form its very own debate team! Led by the amazing Enrique Arriaga, a seasoned pro with experience in national and international tournaments and the Model UN circuit, the team is receiving top-notch training.

Coach Arriaga has designed a program that dives deep into the fascinating world of debate. Students are learning about different debate formats, mastering the art of argumentation, strategizing for victory, and receiving valuable feedback to perfect their skills. Coach Arriaga's support extends beyond training – he'll be there to cheer on our team during the competition itself!

### Benefits Beyond the Podium:

Debate isn't just about winning (although, let's be honest, that's pretty cool too!). This training provides a fantastic opportunity to develop critical thinking, public speaking skills, research prowess, and confidence. These skills are not only valuable in debate, but also translate beautifully to the world of MUNs and beyond!

### Meet the Team!

We're incredibly proud to introduce the dedicated students who will be representing TBSC at the upcoming debate competition on May 18th and 19th! Get ready to cheer on:

- 9th Grade: Sofia Ferreira and Diego Ramírez
- 7th Grade: Aranssa Araque, Constanza Martins, Salim Frangie, Sebastián Araujo, and Santiago Ramírez

Since April 28th, these students have been putting in the hard work, sharpening their debate skills every weekend on school grounds. Their dedication and Coach Arriaga's expertise are a powerful combination!

We wish our incredible debate team the very best of luck at the competition. May their arguments be strong, their voices be clear, and their triumphs be plentiful! And remember, even if they don't take home the trophy this time, the skills they're building are a valuable asset for life!





## HS Application Open House: A Success!

We're happy to share that our recent Admissions Open House for prospective students in Grades 8-10 was a resounding success!

Here's a quick recap:

Dates: Monday, April 15th - Thursday, April 18th

Time: 8:30 - 10:00 am

Location: Dedicated tables set up within the school

This opportunity provided a welcoming environment for parents of interested youngsters to learn more about our school and application process for the limited vacancies available in Grades 8-10. Our Admissions Department was on hand to answer questions and guide families through the application forms.

To ensure everyone knew about this opportunity, we actively promoted the Open House through various channels:

- School Website (aw.edu.ve): Clear information and application details were readily available online.
- Instagram Account: Engaging posts highlighted the Open House dates and encouraged interested families to visit.
- Word-of-Mouth: Our existing school community, including parents, faculty, and staff, also played a vital role in spreading the word.

We appreciate the interest in our school and look forward to reviewing the applications received. We'll continue to provide updates on the admissions process through our usual channels.

A special thank you to the Admissions Department and everyone who helped make this part of the Application process a smooth and informative experience!



## Goooo Science! 2nd Graders Become Mixing Masters!



On April 16th, our curious 2nd graders donned their lab coats (well, maybe just their imaginations!) for a super fun, hands-on Science Activity. They embarked on a mission to crack the code of physical and chemical changes in matter!

So, what's the difference between the two? It's all about how the stuff we see around us transforms. Imagine your favorite superhero costume. During a physical change, the costume might get ripped or stained (like when you take a tumble on the playground!), but it's still the same material underneath.

In our activity, the students became artists! They used white cardboard and whipped up a colorful masterpiece with shaving cream and paint. The cardboard itself didn't change, it just got a cool new look – a perfect example of a physical change!





But science gets even more exciting when things take a chemical turn. This happens when we mix ingredients and create something entirely new! The students pondered what might happen when you combine certain things, like filling a balloon... without using your mouth!

Hold onto your hats! When baking soda and vinegar were mixed, a fizzy reaction took place, creating bubbles and gas that filled the balloon attached to the experiment. This bubbly brew is a classic example of a chemical change!

Our junior scientists also explored how heat can change things up. They saw how liquid batter transformed into a delicious, fluffy waffle when cooked in a waffle maker. Not only did the shape and texture change, but they could also smell the amazing aroma and see the steam rising – all signs of a yummy chemical change in action!

This science activity was a blast, proving that learning about the world around us can be fun and delicious! Who knows, maybe these 2nd graders will be the next generation of scientists making amazing discoveries!

# Upper Elementary Honors Shine Bright!

Huge congratulations to our incredible Upper Elementary (UE) (5th - 7th Grade) students who earned recognition on the 2nd Term Honor Roll! On April 18th, the UE Coordinator announced the outstanding achievements during Morning Announcements, presenting diplomas to those who achieved both Honors and High Honors.

These awards celebrate the dedication and hard work our students put into their studies.

Honors are awarded to students who maintain an average of S+ throughout the term. High Honors go to students who achieve an exceptional average of O or O-.

We're so proud of the following students who made the Honor Roll this term. Not all students were available at the time the pictures were taken. However, all the names are posted below:



## 5th Grade

**Honors:** Nicolás Hernández, Sofía Hernández, Luciana Guánchez, Alonso Valladares, Daniel Yehia, Matías Ortiz, Matthias Quintero

**High Honors:** Emma Chang, Victoria de Lemos, Eduardo Renda



## 6th Grade

**Honors:** Belén García, Ana Margarita Naranjo, Martina Oliveros

**High Honors:** Michelle Buvat De Virginy, Amanda Ubieta, Ivanka Radesca, Gerard Servat



## 7th Grade

**Honors:** Sebastián Araujo, Salim Frangie, Santiago Ramírez, Lucca Amador, Sebastián Domínguez

**High Honors:** Constanza Martins, Isabella Lozinski

