

KSJC

**KUNSILL STUDENTI
JUNIOR COLLEGE**

KSJC Newsletter #1
28/12/2019

Table of Contents

Message from the President.....	3
An Update from KSJC	4
Christmas by Maya Fava	6
My XFactor Experience by Megan Caruana.....	8

Message from the President



I'd like to commence by thanking you for sparing a few moments to read this message and have a look at our First Ever KSJC Newspaper. We believe that this is the ideal platform for KSJC and fellow students to stay in touch with you and express various opinions and experiences.

Elected with the slogan "Stronger Together", we're ensuring that this message is being conveyed through our works throughout the year. Junior College

deserves a unified council, working tirelessly together for the utmost benefit of every student present and those aspiring to embark on a new adventure within this College.

With great responsibility, we're committed to ensuring another year of hard work burst with various tangible projects, new services and exclusive events!

"Opportunities don't happen. You create them."



An Update from KSJC

It is being widely recognized that young people should have the right to be heard and also to speak out about their school experiences and difficulties, This is exactly the set of principles that the KSJC (Kunsill Studenti Junior College) is built upon, to serve as a voice for the rest of the students in Junior college irrespective of their political, religious, cultural or social background, hence being an independent organization with no political attachment whatsoever.

One of KSJC's main aims is to ensure every Junior College student a proper and improved environment based on the students' needs. Also, KSJC serves to promote a better learning environment and serve as a student body for both national and international students. Lastly, KSJC serves to provide an overall memorable sixth form experience.

This year's council, for the first time ever, is made up of eight board members elected by fellow Junior college students in the yearly election. The addition of the role of Vice-president has already been a great asset to the team due to the great load of work that needs to be carried out in a year. The council is presented with a set of proposals from the contenders of which they aim to work on in their year. This year the council has already started working diligently, with a few weeks of being elected KSJC has already organized major events.



One of the events organised was the yearly Charity Match held on the 20th of December, where teams were formed from both Junior college and University students between Pulse and SDM student organizations for a friendly football match. All the money collected was later donated to ‘Istrina’ as part of a yearly tradition from previous KSJCs.

Another successful event was the KSJC Christmas Ball which saw a record breaking 1000 students attending. People danced the night away to great tunes from local DJs as well as spend time with fellow students to kick off the Christmas holidays.



After a planning weekend together, the team evaluated the great amount of work that still needs to be done and is more than ready to tackle everything that they have in their manifesto and beyond.

Christmas by Maya Fava

Without even knowing it, when you gather around the Christmas tree to open a present on Christmas day surrounded by family and loved ones, you are taking part in traditions that go back thousands of years; long before Christianity was in the mix.



Pagan traditions are an integral part of the winter holidays. The early Roman-Catholic church used pagan dates and feasts so that the transition to early church Christianity would be more fluid. They did so by blending the birth of Jesus with the festivities of Saturnalia (roman paganism) and the festivities of the Winter Solstice. Since then, Christmas traditions have changed over time, arriving at their current state a little more than a century ago.

The original pagans were believers of a religion that worshipped several gods and nature itself, thus being polytheistic. Today the word pagan is used to describe a person who has no interest in worshipping any of the 'normal' so-called religions.

Early Christians wanted to convert pagans, but they were also fascinated by their traditions. Christians were very interested in paganism, they obviously saw it as a bad thing, but also something they thought was worth remembering. That's why pagan traditions remained even as Christianity took place.

Despite the crowd of Christianity, winter festivals did not become Christmas for thousands of years. The bible gives no notice to when Jesus was born, which wasn't a problem for early Christians but It never occurred to them that they needed to celebrate his birthday.

The Christmas tree is a 17th-century German invention, but it was obtained from the pagan practise of bringing greenery inside to decorate in winter. The modern Santa Claus is a progeny of Father Christmas, who originally was not even a gift giver. While gift-giving may seem tied to Christmas, people used to look forward to opening presents on New Year's Day. They were a blessing for people to make them feel good as the year ends. It wasn't until the Victorian era of the 1800s that gift-giving shifted to Christmas.

Christmas is a time when you devote to your religious life, but it's also a time where everyone needs cheering up. Believers and non-believers alike.

My XFactor Experience by Megan Caruana

When I applied for Xfactor in January, I had no idea what was in store for me. On the day of the audition, I was honestly terrified. A five-minute audition could change my life. People told me that it's risky to be in a group but I can say that being in a group was the greatest thing that ever happened to me!



During Boot Camp, I was joined with an amazing group of four lovely girls, Demi Galea, Chanelle Borg Zarb, and Ema Vella. It's unbelievable how much we clicked immediately together. From the very first day, it was like we had known each other for ages. I remember singing our lungs out in the car that day when we were going to our first singing lesson together, and us laughing our heads off because we couldn't believe how much we bonded so quickly.

The feeling after a performance is indescribable. On stage, it feels like home! There is no better feeling. I had no idea what sacrifices I had to give for this experience. We rehearse every single day and sometimes twice a day together, but it's all worth it. Luckily Xfactor was and still is my escapism during really tough times and I am accompanied by a group I can call family throughout such a stressful period.

After the six chair challenge, another spectacular girl joined the group, the gorgeous Maya Sesay. It was a shock to us all. We had only a few days left for our next challenge, and we thought it would be difficult to build a bond as we had with a new girl. To our surprise, our new addition made us closer, and we felt that the group was complete.



If we go a day without seeing each other, we seriously miss each other badly. The girls are like my sisters, I don't know what I would do without them. We saw each other cry and laugh, we helped each other in our lows and in our highs. We are experiencing such a magical experience together. All of us girls in the group has a different personality, a different voice, and a different role in the group, and our bond is unexplainable. Our goal is to change people's perspective on groups. It is also our goal to make people connect through our performances and music, and to put a smile on their face.

I can't express how grateful I am for all the lessons I learnt during this experience. I am truly blessed to have such an amazing group. Words can't describe how proud I am of them, and how much I absolutely love them. Also, I would like to take the opportunity to thank my family and friends for all the patience and support, and to all the tutors and team that are helping us throughout this journey! Nonetheless, all the people who are supporting us. It wouldn't be successful without them. We are so excited to show you what we are working on!

