

# Journalism May Be in Danger —Here's Why



By Miriam Chang, Grade 11

On May 3rd, World Press Freedom Day was celebrated. Celebrating this day, a speech given by the United Nations cultural agency director Audrey Azoulay states that 2022 was one of the most dangerous years for journalists. More than 80 journalists were killed in 2022, mainly outside war zones. Not only physically, but journalists were also being harassed online. Journalism is viewed as an important element of society as they provide facts and opinions while continuing to exercise freedom of speech. In this digital age, journalists are said to be needed even more as information,

whether credible or not, spreads faster than ever. Just as Jean Baudrillard explores the definition of reality after the internet has taken over, information on anything is just a click away. The UN advises countries with great belief in free speech to provide more legal protections for journalists. Non-profit organizations working to preserve journalism such as The Ground Truth Project are noteworthy programs to view for more types of news and expressions of the next generation of journalists. 

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AP & SAT Test Center: 70143  
CEEB Code: 694018

Issuer: Dr. Chang Hui-Cheng  
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Issue 14  
June 2023



## 2023 HWIS Commencement

It was a historic day for all of us, students, teachers, family and friends.

## The 2023 Graduates Bid Their Final Goodbye!

By Miriam Chang, Grade 11

The '23 Class comes back to HWIS for the last time to receive their diplomas after their tumultuous but rewarding high school years. Families, classmates, friends, and teachers gather to celebrate the senior graduates' successes and motivate the G9 class to work hard for their goals in high school. Along with a multitude of speeches, a dance performance by girls in the G10 and G11 classes has become the highlight of the ceremony. Many students in the G11 class think about what their graduation would look like next year after viewing the ceremony this year. Let us look into the thoughts of one of our speech givers for this year's commencement:

"I took a deep breath and prepared myself before I was supposed to deliver the final speech as the representative of the G11 class. As I look across the stage, my hands can't help but tremble while the eyes in the audience blink and stare at me. The speech felt like it went by in a breeze, and I smile

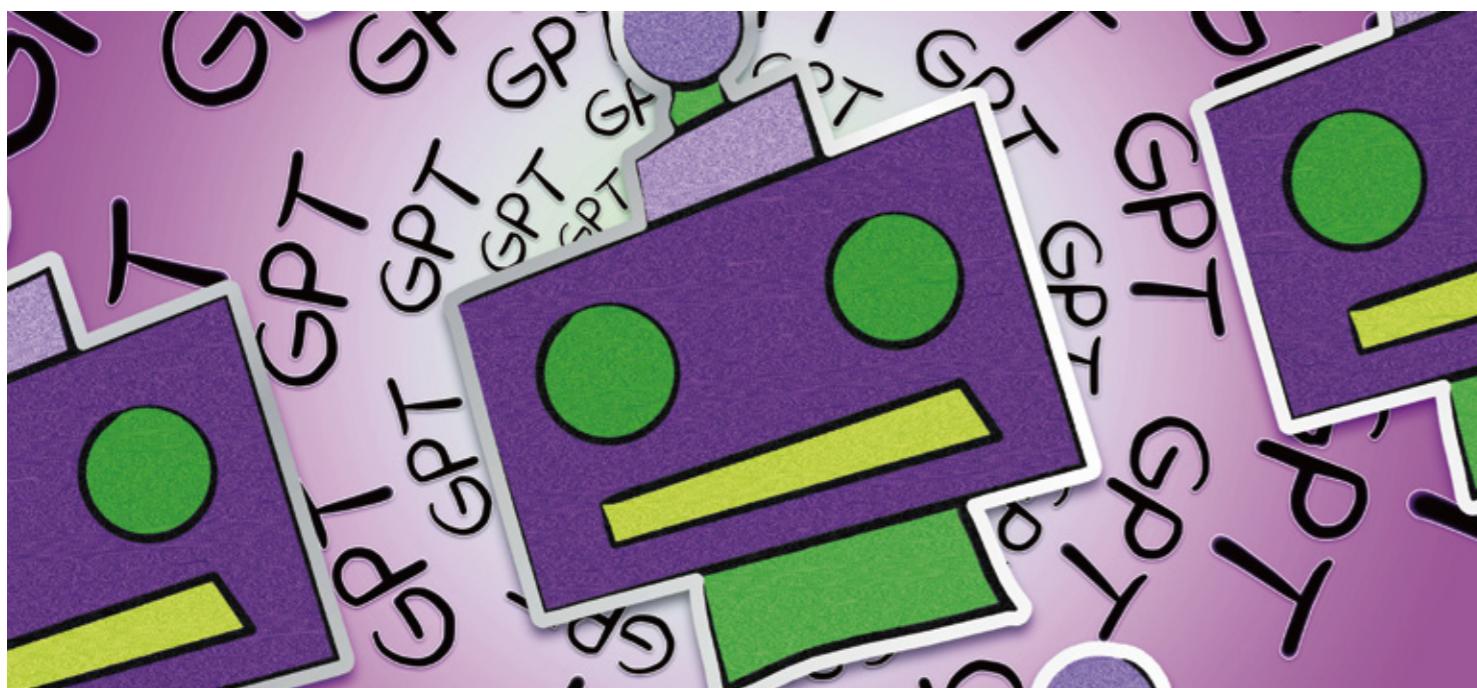
slightly at the camera. It was exhilarating, but I felt much lighter when I stepped off the stage. I could see the decorations, the smiles, and the proud graduates' gowns and caps. I imagine myself in their position one year later, about to walk into a new chapter of my life. I anticipate it every day, a new start to my young life."

As many sayings have taught us, commencement is a celebration of a beginning, not a sorrowful gathering for an end. Let's wish our graduates the best of luck in taking their desired paths! 



G11 Wallace Chen

# Chat GPT



By Ruby Lai, Grade 10

Recently, we have heard the term Chat GPT multiple times throughout various media platforms, and even our teachers are aware of it. So what exactly is Chat GPT? Simply put, it is an AI chat box tool developed by Open AI that interacts with people in a question-and-answer way. Engineers input large amounts of data into the system, like parents nurturing a child, giving it information to

# CHATGPT

Benefits	Drawbacks
Less time-consuming to finish tasks/get solutions and improve efficiency	Reduce the thinking-ability of people and cause inertia. The most apparent impact is in education.
Provide ideas and content for inspiration	Stifling the creativity of people in the long term. Also, it may infringe on the copyright and lead to plagiarism.
Free and 24/7 available for users to reach out for information	People become more dependable on it instead of using their intelligence. Also, there is a lack of current and relevant information available, which could result in incorrect data or answers unless individuals take the initiative to fact-check.
Reduce labor costs for businesses (reduce risks of making mistakes, improve productivity, etc.)	Threatening certain jobs (office workers)

The impact of Chat GPT is determined by how we use it. Would it be a tool to enhance our knowledge and efficiency or one that would hinder our creativity and create inertia? It's your call!

# From Entertainment to Addiction: **The Pros and Cons of Social Media**



By Ethan Ku, Grade 9

Social media have taken the world by storm, they connect people from all corners of the world. Although social media has numerous benefits, it also brings some drawbacks. Here are some of the positive and negative aspects of social media.

## Benefits of Social Media

- Entertainment: Social media provides a place for entertainment and relaxation, including funny videos, memes, and other lighthearted content
  - Networking: Social media is an excellent tool for building professional networks and finding job opportunities.
  - Connectivity: Social media enables people to connect and interact with others around the world despite how far they are apart.
  - Access to information: Social media platforms provide access to news, current events, and other important information to broaden our horizons.

## Drawbacks of Social Media

- Cyberbullying: Social media has led to an increase in cyberbullying, which can have negative impacts on mental health and well-being.
  - False Information: Social media can be a source of disinformation, spreading false or misleading information to “blind” us.
  - Privacy Concerns: Social media platforms collect personal data, which can be used for targeted advertising or other purposes.
  - Addiction: Social media can be addictive, leading to

overuse and potentially harmful effects on mental health, especially with the prevalence of video clips.

While social media has many benefits, it is important to recognize its drawbacks and use it responsibly. Moderation and mindfulness usage are key to enjoying the benefits of social media while avoiding its negative effects. By being aware of the potential risks, we can take steps to protect ourselves while enjoying the many benefits of social media. 

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