



LC Quarterly

Q1 - SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2020

READ, IMAGINE, DISCOVER & LEARN IN THE LC!

RESEARCH ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

The Learning Commons Research Across the Curriculum program has a new look this year. The students will still learn all about the MLA format, effective search strategies, evaluating resources and how to put these research skills into action. However, the topics will be covered in smaller increments. The freshmen will meet with me once a month rather than once per quarter.

In an effort to make RAC more accessible, I have been assembling all information, lesson instructions and resources in a [Research Across the Curriculum Virtual Notebook](#). Everyone in grade nine has access to this notebook at all times via the RAC Google Classroom.

Table of Contents

[Research Across the Curriculum](#)

[Did you Know?](#)

[Spotlight on the Collection: E-books](#)

[Book Club updates](#)

[Pop in for a Virtual Visit](#)

[Read the TIE](#)

[Pulled from the Archives](#)



Research Across the Curriculum *(continued)*

To date, the freshmen English I and English Writing classes have worked on Research Across the Curriculum assignments. In October, Ms. Gustin and Ms. Siwik's classes participated in an introduction to the Learning Commons. The students took notes on the different resources and services provided by the LC. At the end of class, they competed against each other in a Kahoot! Quiz.

In November, Ms. Cady and Ms. Charette's English Writing students explored the helpful features of the online encyclopedia, *Britannica School* and learned the basics of creating a properly formatted Works Cited page. They researched one of five Massachusetts writers: Dr. Seuss, Robert Frost, Louisa May Alcott, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Edith Wharton and shared what they learned in a carefully constructed MEL-Con paragraph.

As RAC continues, Ms. Balzarini will have her Spanish I and Spanish II students complete a project to practice their advanced search techniques, using search operators and limiters to refine their results in December. Dr. Pit will bring her World History I students in at the end of January to research India's first empires and assemble an annotated bibliography of scholarly resources.

Thank you to the freshmen teachers who are collaborating with me to assist their students in gaining important research skills.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that November is Picture Book Month? Listening to a bedtime story and examining colorful illustrations in a picture book is often a child's first step into the world of literature. Growing up with a personal library of kid's books is essential for four reasons: picture books introduce children to the magical joy of reading, they stimulate a child's imagination and provide emotional touchstones. And finally picture books showcase an endless gallery of amazing artwork.



At the end of November, I created a visual tribute to the best kind of picture book . . . the alphabet book.

Take a [look!](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON THE COLLECTION: E-BOOKS

Due to the pandemic, I have been focusing on expanding our collection of e-books. On the LC webpages, everyone in the SJP reading community can access our different e-book collections.

The **FollettShelf** contains mainly non-fiction and reference titles students may find helpful for research projects across the curriculum.

Our **NOOK** collection features many popular novels and non-fiction titles for students and faculty to enjoy. Readers can access SJP book club selections, as well as books assigned as required reading for our humanities classes. Borrow one of our e-readers to access this collection.

As a supplement to our Junior Library Guild print collection of high interest young adult titles, we now have access to **JLG's Gold Standard Collection** of e-books. The ever changing list of available selections is updated periodically, so there is always something new to read.

If you are looking for something good to read online, check out one of these suggestions:

Ever After by Olivia Vieweg (JLG)
Ricochet by Kathryn Beria (JLG)
The Summer of Everything by Julian Winters (JLG)
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles (NOOK)
Biomes and Ecosystems (Follett)

The Complete Works of H.P. Lovecraft (NOOK)
Agatha Christie Complete Mystery Novel Collection (NOOK)
The Complete History of Aviation (Follett)
Money for Minors (Follett)

All SJP readers are invited to browse our virtual bookshelves and discover even more unexpected literary gems!

What will you find hidden in the stacks?

BOOK CLUB UPDATES

The Lunchtime Book Club began the year reading a couple of graphic novels. Not only does this format easily allow the students to fit reading for pleasure into their busy academic schedules, but it also provides opportunities to enjoy engaging storylines and fantastic art. Our lunchtime readers definitely recommend the *Olympians* graphic novel series by George O'Connor and Rainbow Rowell's charming, Halloween-themed *Pumpkinheads*.

Our Parent-Faculty Book Club has continued to meet on a monthly basis. Over the summer, we read *The Great Influenza* by John M. Barry, a detailed and fascinating examination of the 1918 Flu pandemic. During Q1, we read *House of Names* by Colm Toibin and *Things in Jars* by Jess Kidd. We engaged in lively conversations about Greek drama and the aftermath of the Trojan War, as well as lady detectives, unscrupulous physicians, mythical mermaids and Victorian London.



If you are an ardent book lover, please become an active member of our SJP Reading Community and join our book clubs!

POP IN FOR A VIRTUAL VISIT



Although we are not spending as much time at 617 Cambridge Street this academic year, the (virtual) doors to the Learning Commons are always open to the entire school community. Pop into the [Virtual LC](#) anytime. The online content in each room is updated regularly.

In our online annex, you can request library materials and search the catalog at the Circulation Desk, keep up with what the freshmen are researching in the Research Across the Curriculum Classroom, find updates on all the LC clubs in Cafe 48 and much more.

All online resources are accessible 24/7 in the Virtual LC and on the [LC website](#).

READ THE TIE



Our student journalists have been busy during Q1. In the first two issues of *The TIE*, they have reported on the rewards of being part of Campus Ministry, the Inktober art challenge, the Phoenix Players' thought-provoking podcast, notable happenings in our SJP classrooms and much more!

Led by editor-in-chief, Andrea Moreno, our staff has been working diligently this quarter to hone their journalistic skills and provide stories that will pique the interest of everyone in our SJP family.

Read the latest issue of our student newspaper [here](#).

PULLED FROM THE ARCHIVES



November 17, 2018 (Café Phoenix) — The SJP Student Council hosts our annual International Thanksgiving Dinner in the SJP dining hall. Students and faculty gathered to play games, feast on traditional Thanksgiving fare and create memories!