

Torch

The life of
Queen Elizabeth II



Torch

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Torch is Wath Academy's student-produced magazine, published every half term

You can contribute to *Torch* by attending the enrichment club on Tuesday afternoons at 2:50 pm in G20 or by emailing articles to torch@wathacademy.com

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**Wath
Academy**

CONTENTS

- 3 House Update
- 4 Bay of Naples School Trip
- 7 Upcoming Performances
- 8 Where's the Library Gone?
- 9 Nuffield Research Placements
- 10 Meet Wath's New Teachers
- 13 Wath's Cleaners
- 14 From the Archives
- 15 Andrew Tate Is an Abomination
- 16 Remembering the Queen
- 18 Football and Eating Greek
- 19 The Cost of Living Crisis
- 20 History of Halloween
- 21 Reviews
- 23 Puzzles



Welcome to Your New Look *Torch*!

You'll notice things look different compared to last year. *The Torch* newspaper is now *Torch* magazine. The new format means we can include more large and colourful images. Furthermore, the magazine is A5-sized, which should make it nicer to handle and easier to read online (especially on your mobile phone). But don't worry: all the articles are still written by Wath Academy students and staff. We hope you enjoy the new design.

HOUSE UPDATE



It has been a very exciting start to the new school year for our house system. We have to first mention the success of Athens last year, winning the 2021–2022 House Cup and enjoying a well-earned day off school on Friday to visit Alton Towers. Well done, Athens! The top participating students, alongside some of Athens' staff, had a fantastic (albeit soggy) day out celebrating their win. Hopefully, this trip will become tradition for the winning house... time will tell who will go next year.

So far, Troy have been off to a flying start; they have overtaken Athens in Week 5 to currently be in pole position with a whopping 18,940 points. Mrs Lines is very proud of her Trojans for braving the rain to win last Friday's comet toss challenge, as well as the languages online quiz and the sixth form task.

We have already broken a record this year for the most box task entries ever! The mindfulness colouring challenge saw over 100 entries, all to an incredibly high standard. A massive round of applause for all pupils who put in the extra effort by

drawing their own outline before colouring it in. Ranking all of these beautiful entries was Mrs Schofield's most challenging decision to date, but a big congratulations to Scarlett S in Year 7 for winning 600 points for Thebes. A selection of entries have been used to decorate the house display boards around school – keep an eye out for your own artwork being on show.

The staff around the academy are also pulling their weight for your house. So far this year, we have seen the highest ever participation for staff in the online quizzes and the Friday challenge. Thank you to all of the teachers who make it down to the tennis courts every Friday lunchtime for the house challenge – remember, all staff and all year groups are welcome to join us down there at 12:50 pm every Friday. Participation wins points!

This is how the points currently stand:

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| 1) Troy..... | 18,940 | 4) Carthage... | 13,860 |
| 2) Athens..... | 18,360 | 5) Thebes..... | 13,720 |
| 3) Sparta..... | 14,265 | 6) Rome..... | 12,065 |

Miss Goulty • Head of Athens



Athens students at Alton Towers as a reward for winning the House Cup 2021–2022



Bay of Naples School Trip

Year 10 student Isobel G recounts her visit to Italy, including seeing Mount Vesuvius and Pompeii.



In July of 2022, I decided to go on the trip to Italy, along with 39 other students who were in Years 9 and 10 at the time. On the second day, we travelled 1,281 meters high to the peak of an active volcano, last erupting in March 1944, Mount Vesuvius.

The coach only took us so far, dropping us off near dozens of stalls selling a variety

of souvenirs. Magnets, sculptures, football shirts and volcanic rock were just a few of the many items on sale. My sister and I decided to buy a few magnets for some of the members of our family. A few people bought refreshments to prepare for the climb up Mount Vesuvius. The blazing sun was starting to burn brighter and harder on our freshly sun-creamed backs as we trekked up the mountain.

After around a twenty minute climb, we reached the summit of the volcano. The inside of the volcano was described as disappointing to some but it was a magnificent sight in my opinion. Inside the volcano, there were two separate rings around the interior signifying the eruptions that occurred in 1944 and 79AD. We were able to walk around the circumference of the volcano to get the best views and pictures. There was no lava visible; however, pockets of steaming smoke could be seen scattered inside the volcano. It was truly a once in a life time opportunity.



Pompeii, destroyed by a volcanic eruption

After visiting Mount Vesuvius, we followed up with a trip to Pompeii. Pompeii was a popular trading city that had a population of 12,000 prior to the eruption. After the devastating eruption, the majority of the population was wiped out, leaving a thick layer of ash covering the entirety of Pompeii for centuries.

In the mid 1700s, the city was rediscovered and the task of preserving this ancient city started. The teachers let have our food before we inside the walls of Pompeii so I decided to get a huge chocolate ice cream from a small shop next door.

The city was quite extraordinary and felt truly like a relic of the past. We passed through a beautifully preserved colosseum where the Italian gladiators would fight to entertain the people in Pompeii. There were several restaurants that were owned by the citizens, but the most popular dining was fast food! Believe it or not, fast food was extremely popular in the city as many

people passed through and wanted food that was quick and easy to prepare. The cobblestone streets were equipped with water fountains and vegetation around the outskirts of the city. Some of the buildings had been fully preserved while others had only started going through the process of being preserved.

“Believe it or not, fast food was extremely popular in Pompeii.”

The next day, we took a boat trip to Capri, a small island located in the Tyrrhenian Sea. The boat took us on a guided tour around the island and it was incredible. The ocean was crystal clear and the Boat driver put some Ed Sheeran songs.

When we arrived on the ‘Island of Lemons’ we took a Funicular Railway up the cliffs to a restaurant, we took a bit of time to explore then went on the boat home again. However, we were able to go for a refreshing paddle in the ocean but we were restricted to below our knees. The water was unsurprisingly warm but I was glad I got the chance to experience of going in the ocean.

We went back to our accommodation and were able to go to the pool for a few hours before dinner. At the pool, there were a selection of slides which boosted the fun. The first slide was short but shot you out quick as a bullet. The second slide twisted and turned but wasn’t as quick. There was a third slide, but it was very small and for children. As well as these, there was a dance instructor who encouraged the people to dance along with her.

Isobel G • Year 10

Movement Evening: Upcoming Performances

Wath Academy’s Drama, Dance and Music departments bring a pretty wide variety of shows and performances. Here are some of the upcoming Movement Evening performances.

Movement Evening is going to be a really fun event this February and its theme this year will be ‘The Greatest Show’. Personally, I believe this year’s performances fit the theme really well and this year will consist of lots of fun performances.

There will be a musical theatre performance called, ‘Seize The Day’ from the Broadway show, *Newsies*. It goes down in history where one of the most surprising things ever happened. Kids back then were ‘newsies’, someone who delivers newspapers for a ‘penny a page’. The kids thought they weren’t getting enough and they finally stood up to the adults and demanded a strike. They won over the adults and this performance will show exactly how it happened, in a musical way.

Another performance is one of my favourites. It will be a dance based on the movie *Despicable Me*. It will include Gru, Vector and Doctor Nefarious. It will be a very funny and entertaining performance. The last main performance will be ‘You Will Be Found’ from *Dear Evan Hansen*. The story is a boy called Evan Hansen’s speech ‘The Connor Project’ goes online and many people empathise with Evan’s words.

That’s all the main performances I have right now but there will be many more amazing performances for you to watch.

Jonny F • Year 9

WHERE'S THE LIBRARY GONE? IT HASN'T!



WATH.ACADEMY.LOVES.READING

The library hasn't disappeared! It's relocated! If you haven't had a look yet, I encourage you to!

This academic year, the library has relocated to the first floor, right between the English and Maths corridors. The library team have done a fantastic job with relocating all of the most popular books and texts. The space is bright and offers plenty of seating space to relax during social times.

The library has a superb and widespread variety of books that are both fiction and non-fiction. Mrs Frith and Mrs Laite regularly buy in brand new books in response to student voice and what is current. The most popular books at the moment are our graphic novels, particularly *Heartstoppers!*

If you need any reading recommendations take a look on the library's vibrant display boards, the new 'Bookflix' display will guide you to the books behind the latest films and series. This is ideal if you can't get enough of Nick Nelson and Charlie.

Make sure you have a look at the latest 'Just Arrived' books. I spotted the *I Am Malala* book that Year 8 are currently reading in English and the Raheem Sterling book caught my eye (even though he left my team for City – unforgivable!). If still nothing is catching your eye, ask the library team and they are more than happy to help find a book that suits you.

Remember: reading is good for you! It will help you to progress in all of your subjects, increase your mental well-being and I can promise you is a great way to relax.

Come and have a look at our new library! It is open every break and lunch time. You can access it by Walkway 2, between the Le Rendezvous yard and Technology yard.

P.S. Wath has a new Instagram account: [@wath_academy_loves_reading](https://www.instagram.com/wath_academy_loves_reading). I'd love you to give it a follow!

Happy reading!

Miss Majer • Key Stage 3 English Coordinator



The 'Bookflix' display in the new library



Nuffield Research Placements

This summer I was lucky enough to undertake a Nuffield Research placement, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, which is a charity concerned with social well-being and education. They provide eligible Year 12 students with the opportunity to contribute towards a live research-project in STEM (as well as computing and quantitative social science), which are provided by organisations that have volunteered. This could be, for example, a university, an engineering company or a hospital. The placement is completed in the summer holidays between Year 12 and Year 13 and lasts two–four weeks.

My research project was at an engineering company called Tribosonics Ltd. I spent two weeks researching, via pre-existing academic papers and through my own practical work, the performance of ultrasonic couplants. Initially, this sounded a bit intimidating, but everyone at the placement were incredibly helpful and willing to explain anything to me – they don't expect you to know about the project topic before-hand. I spent about half the time experimenting with the couplants and the other half of the time evaluating the data from these experiments. I also spent some time after the placement researching existing papers on the topic and improving my report.

For reference on what a report might be like, here is my abstract (summary) of my report:

Couplants are needed because of the air gap between the test piece and the transducer. Ultrasonic waves do not transmit through air so, without a couplant, a lot of energy/information is lost. Therefore, a couplant must fill this air gap which can transmit ultrasonic waves well to lose as little energy as possible. This report will compare the Tribosonics couplant to the Echo Z+ couplant, and explore the effect of different temperature, surface roughness and couplant thickness on their performance.

In conclusion, the Echo Z+ couplant performed more consistently when there were environmental changes and had a better peak to peak overall, but the Tribosonics couplant is more convenient to use.

In my opinion, I definitely think a Nuffield research placement is worth doing if you are interested in STEM or computing. I have learnt a lot in just that short period of time which I think will be useful in the future, I now know how to write a succinct report, and it has improved my lab practical skills and computer literacy. It is also a great thing to include on your personal statement and to talk about in a university or apprenticeship interview. Even better, you may be eligible for a £200 bursary, and everyone is reimbursed for travel expenses so financial issues should not be a problem. If you would like more information, you can visit the websites nuffieldresearchplacements.org or stem.org.uk.

Caitlin M-S • Year 13 A Level Physics student



MEET WATH'S NEW TEACHERS

Torch catches up with some of the teachers who joined Wath Academy in September.

Miss Fells Geography



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

Wath Academy provides students with many opportunities to grow and develop. The key drivers were a main factor in why I wanted to become a teacher at Wath Academy. As a Geography teacher, these key drivers are very important in underpinning the classroom environment while we build on students' personal experiences and help to develop cultural capital for future success at Wath.

Why do you like teaching Geography?

Geography provides endless opportunities to connect with place, space, people and the physical and natural environment. Teaching Geography encourages students to build a passion and connect with the world around them and make a difference.

What do you do outside of teaching?

Outside of teaching I very much enjoy spending my time outside in the open environment. I enjoy walking and experiencing new places including setting myself challenges such as climbing Ben Nevis for charity.

Mr White Maths



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

The curriculum and teaching style – Mathematics at Wath Academy is taught in a remarkably up-to-date and successful way, and I wanted to be able to start teaching students in the way that's most likely to help them understand.

Why do you like teaching Maths?

Because it's so useful! Mathematics is so relevant to so many subjects, like Psychology, Science and even English – Maths is the only subject to teach universal truths that you can keep applying years after you've learned them.

What do you do outside of teaching?

Mostly I read, especially science fiction and fantasy. A particular recommendation of mine would be *The Goblin Emperor*, if you're at all interested in language and politics. It's all about the coronation of, and early political intrigue around, a new emperor in an interesting industrial fantasy setting.

Mr Maith PE



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

One driving motivator of mine is how clear it is to see that Wath Academy holds sport and PE in the highest regard through facilitating lots of opportunities for students to get involved. Also, having the key drivers to underpin the classroom environment is something I truly believe in and can feel the impact of this lesson by lesson. Lastly, having grown up playing rugby locally for Dearne Valley Bulldogs, I knew the area was largely rugby focused and this was something I wanted to help encourage and develop through PE and sport at Wath.

Why do you like teaching PE?

Having grown up within sport and played at a good level across many sports, I know the benefit that sport can have on many young people and wish to spread these benefits across a community. I believe can make a massive difference in building well developed young people.

What do you do outside of teaching?

Outside teaching my weekends are still filled with sport! From going to watch Arsenal play at the Emirates to caddying for my dad at professional golf events and playing for Wath RUFC, I still enjoy the thrill of being fully immersed in the sporting culture.

“I wanted a new challenge where I could help to enthuse and inspire younger students.”

Mrs Stanley Science



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

I've been teaching for many years, and I wanted a new challenge where I could also help to enthuse and inspire younger students through sharing a love of Science and specifically Chemistry.

Why do you like teaching Chemistry?

Chemistry is obviously the best subject as it's all about seeing the patterns in everyday things and helping us to make sense of and appreciate the world around us.

What do you do outside of teaching?

Outside of teaching, I enjoy spending quality family time with my husband and daughter, which often includes swimming, cycling, walking, reading, crafts, and sometimes watching movies snuggled up on the sofa.

Miss Cooke Maths



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

I came from a small, catholic school of 750 pupils. I wanted a challenge and to experience a bigger school with sixth form and alternative provision.

Why do you like teaching Maths?

If you follow a method you will get the right answer. Answers are right or wrong and the subject is black and white rather than opinion or keyword based. It is the same in every country; it the universal language of the world!

What do you do outside of teaching?

I enjoy playing board games with friends and cosying up on the sofa to binge watch a good TV series!

Mr Avill Science



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

I have a genuine enthusiasm for passing on knowledge. Having worked at Wath previously, I had good working knowledge of the school and felt that I could embrace the Wath ethos in my teaching.

Why do you like teaching Science?

Science is fundamental to the world and life as a whole. It holds the answers to most of the big questions about the world today and our thinking is constantly evolving as we continue to learn about our world. Trying to pass this onto students is privileged opportunity.

What do you do outside of teaching?

I enjoy walking, being active and have a passion for animals and the natural world.

Mr Thompson Spanish



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

Wath is a vibrant school with a lot of great teachers and an impressive way of running things. So far I've met some very interesting pupils and teachers and am glad I made the decision to come to Wath.

Why do you like teaching Spanish?

Spanish is a very useful language that is spoken around the world and in media: in many films and songs. Spanish native speakers are also really surprised and impressed when you speak Spanish to them, as they never expect British people to know any other languages! It is very rewarding.

What do you do outside of teaching?

I love football, I'm a huge Liverpool fan and before I was a teacher I had a job doing football analysis – basically watching football all day every day!

“I've met some very interesting pupils and teachers and am glad I made the decision to come to Wath.”

Mr Tingle Computing/Business



What inspired you to become a teacher at Wath Academy?

I am a former student. I left sixth form in 1997! It is a school I have always had a lot of affection for and jumped at the chance when an opportunity to work here arose.

Why do you like teaching Computer Studies and Business?

It is very current. There is always a new piece of software to learn how to use, you never know everything. With Business, we have ready-made examples in the news every day (especially at the minute!) so it is easy to relate concepts in lessons to what is happening in the world!

What do you do outside of teaching?

I have played cricket since I was very young. I currently play for Wath Cricket Club and manage the under 9 team. I also have keen interest in football, managing the Wath Stars under 7s. For my sins, I am a lifelong Rotherham United supporter.

Ruby R • Year 10

CLEANERS

The Team Behind the Success

You may not realise, but cleaners play a pivotal role in the running of the school. Without his mechanics team, Lewis Hamilton wouldn't be able to race. Therefore, I spoke to some to learn a little more about them.

Firstly, I asked them how long they have worked at this school, and some have been here longer than some of the teaching and admin staff: 20 years. One whom I spoke to came to this school as a student, in the old building, and said she enjoys the memories of going to school, but that the new building is much better than the old. Another said he went to school near Manchester, and came here to work in the steelworks, before being presented with the chance to leave and become a cleaner.

The unanimous consensus was that Wath was their favourite place to work so far, as the modern building is better to work in than older schools like Wath Victoria Primary School, and there are more cleaners. Once the cleaners get to know each other, they become a happy gang of close friends. One said he enjoyed how every day was slightly different, so he doesn't get bored, but both mentioned that the students can be messy at times, specifically commenting on the number of pens found on the floor, and that some students leave litter. However, one said that the staff were very friendly, but she hasn't seen enough students to comment.

In traditional *Torch* fashion, I asked them a more leisure time question of what their



Image: Nick Youngson, CC BY-SA 3.0, Pix4free.org

favourite entertainment was, such as a book or TV series. One cleaner said she enjoys watching some *Coronation Street* – a familiar classic to many – as it is relaxing to her, although she doesn't get much free time to watch it. Another said he enjoys *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain, as he was read it by a teacher once, and enjoys history – though especially ancient history.

The cleaners deserve more gratitude for their work behind the scenes and are not just here to clean up after lazy students, but important people with their own lives, who deserve respect, as they believe that the job is often looked down on, but still must be done. They arrive at 5:30am, before most students even wake up, in time to have cleaned and prepared the school at 8:00am. They return after most year groups leave at 3:00 pm, and work until 5:30 pm to make sure that the messes made are gone for tomorrow. And, though they are taken for granted by many, they all still enjoy their job, and the community around it.

Isobelle F • Year 11

ANDREW TATE IS AN ABOMINATION TO MANKIND

Sixth former Chloe H gives her views on the controversial social media star.

Although Andrew Tate became a name known for kickboxing, he has recently made himself known for many of his offensive videos on social media. Tate has many negative and misogynistic views. He believes men are the superior being and therefore he believes that himself as a man gets to treat women however he wants.

This view is honestly just disgusting. Women should be able to have the same successes as men and it's people like Tate that are the reason women are still struggling to be equal in today's society.

He believes women are here just to procreate and that they shouldn't have any success. One of the many things he has said is that women belong in the home; they shouldn't drive and that they are men's property. These sexist view ended a long time ago so the fact he still has them shows how much he is stuck in the dark ages and it shows how much of a bad person he really is.

Although Tate was recently banned from many social media platforms, people are still



sympathising with his final message where he spoke about all of the charity work he has done. The reason he spoke about this is because he realised the hate he was getting and so spoke about the few good things he had done to try and cancel out the thousands of negative things he has done and said. This makes him a terrible human being.

Tate is a horrible person with horrible views. These views should not be supported – and neither should he!

Chloe H • Year 12

The Longest Reign

Queen Elizabeth II was the longest reigning monarch in history. We look back at her life and what she achieved.

The Queen was 96 years old when she died after a life of dedication to her people worldwide. Tributes came in from leaders across the world in recognition of her hard and tireless work. She presided over 15 prime ministers over her lifetime; Winston Churchill was her first and Liz Truss was her last.

Elizabeth II became Queen in 1952 when she was 25 years old. Her reign came to an end in 2022 when she died on 8th September at Balmoral.

She was a truck driver and mechanic in WWII and was the first female member of the Royal Family to serve in the military. She was the longest reigning monarch in British and Commonwealth history.

In 1952, whilst Princess Elizabeth was on a tour in Kenya, she found out her father, George VI, had passed away and she was going to become Queen. Her coronation took place on 2nd June 1953 at

Westminster Abbey in London. The Abbey has been the setting for coronations. Since 1066 and 39 coronations have been held there. It was the first coronation to be televised, with an audience of over 277 million people. After the coronation, the Queen wore her coronation dress six times, including the opening of Parliament in New Zealand and Australia in 1954.

Shortly after her service in the war, in 1947, she married Prince Philip, an officer in the Royal Navy. She gave birth to her first child in 1948 who would grow up to be King Charles III. In 1957, the Queen gave her first Christmas speech, which was broadcast to the nation. This became a yearly tradition.

In 1977, the Commonwealth celebrated her Silver Jubilee, marking 25 years on the throne. Due to this, thousands of street parties were held to celebrate this moment of her life. In November 1992, a fire broke out in Windsor Castle causing extensive damage that took a couple of years to repair. The repairs cost a total of £36.5 million pounds and Buckingham Palace was opened to the public to help fund these costs. In 2015, she became the longest reigning monarch in history, overtaking her great-grandmother, Queen Victoria.

In 2022, the nation celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee but then her health declined and she passed away months later.

O. S. • Year 9





Elizabeth II at her coronation in 1953
*(Image: Cecil Beaton, public domain, via
Wikimedia Commons)*

Ranking Football Transfers

As the football transfer window closes, some teams have done better deals than others.

Bayern Munich

Even though with the major departure of Robert Lewandowski, Bayern have had a decent window bringing in the likes of Mane, De Ligt and the talented youngsters Gravenberch and Tel, who saying could be the replacement for Lewangoalski. Other incomings include Mazraoui.

Nottingham Forest

A pretty obvious one, Nottingham Forrest have had **23** incomings! From experienced players such Willy Boly and Jesse Lingard to wonderkids such as Neco Williams and Morgan Gibbs-White. Overall, there are too many transfers to list them all.

Galatasaray

A not very obvious one, but Galatasaray have had a very sneaky transfer window, bringing in Mauro Icardi and Milot Rashica on loan but, the main transfer is bringing in Napoli's all time goal scorer, Dries Mertens. Juan Mata, Lucas Torrerria and Sergio Oliviera have been needed improvements in the midfield with Yusuf Demir being a young addition to the wings. Mostafa Mohammed and Haris Seferovic are bulking up top and finally the former Lyon captain Leo Dubois joining the other right backs in the club.

Aleksander P • Year 7

Things to Eat in Zante

Greece is one of the best places for good food so here are some recommended dishes.



1) Grilled Swordfish

Absolutely **delicious!** Served with rice, chips and salad, this lemon and rosemary, swordfish is amazing. I recommend! **13/10**

2) Gyro and Moussaka

Gyro contains red onions but overall it is delicious. **9/10**

3) Spaghetti Frutti de Mare

Perfect sauce and it was good. **8/10**

4) Grilled Octopus

Too chewy. I ate the olives and cucumber. **3/10**

5) Seabream

Has some pin bones but still good. This fish is served with roasted vegetables and potatoes. **9/10**

6) Feta Saganaki

Baked feta, crusted with sesame seeds and honey. Very good but a bit sickly. **7/10**

7) Mushrooms à la Crème

Mushrooms in a creamy, stringy cheese sauce. Very good, but, like the Feta Saganaki, it was a bit sickly. **7/10**

Oliver K • Year 7 (professional eater)

THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS



image: Suzy Hazelwood/Pexels

You have probably heard of the ‘cost of living crisis’, but what does it mean? Year 9 student Amber W explains. Meanwhile Ruby K, also in Year 9, uses the crisis as inspiration for a poem.

Today I am going to talk about the cost of living and all about how it affects our modern day society.

What is the cost of living?

The cost of living means the price of things and the amount of money people need to spend on essentials, such as food or car tax. At the moment, the cost of living is becoming much more expensive.

Are prices rising?

Shockingly, the cost of living has been increasing rapidly! This year, the prices are up by 26% – essentially saying if you bought something for £1 before the rise, now it would be £1.26. This can happen in anything, such as gas and electric, groceries, broadband services and much more.

How does this affect adults?

This is bad because it means adults either have insufficient funds or can only spend money on the essentials. This can make adults feel upset because they feel as though they can’t treat their children or even just treat themselves. What can affect them most is when adults don’t have

enough money to get by. However, there are many ways to get support, such as government grants and support schemes.

Thank you for reading. I hope I have helped you learn more about the cost of living.

Amber W • Year 9

Life at the Start of the 21st Century

The Cost of Living is not thriving,
It seems to be all about surviving,
While they’re living up in the hills,
With maybe some skills,
Our future is skiving,
Debts are piling,
Without dying,
And our bank accounts crying,
Put it all in a pot,
Working hard,
Scanning our cards,
And all in the end for What?

Ruby K • Year 9



HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

Ah yes, Halloween: a favourite celebration we all know of. The time when we all dress up in funky costumes and scary face paint.

Let's get into history and general... well... Halloween itself.

Halloween, also known as All Hallows' Eve, is celebrated around the world in many different countries. All Hallows' Eve being the day before the Christian holy day of all saints or All Hallows' Day on November 1st. Halloween was celebrated in Ireland and Scotland for centuries before Irish and Scottish migrants took it to North America in the 19th Century, then spreading to other countries.

In the past, people in some parts of the world visited cemeteries to pray and placed flowers and candles on graves of loved

ones. Some went 'souling', where they go door to door collecting soul cakes in exchange for praying lanterns made for the dead. They would be made from hollowed out turnips, called jack-o'-lanterns, which would ward off evil spirits.

The tradition today has changed slightly today as we go trick or treating and carry large hollowed out pumpkins and dress up in scary costumes (to represent the dead). We also like telling scary stories or watching horror movies. Whatever you do this Halloween, reflect on its heritage and have fun!

Halloween is even more popular in America! America's trick or treating population is very high as 41.1 million people trick or treat every year!

Jessica M • Year 8

REVIEWS

Hubie Halloween (Netflix)



Hubie Halloween is a Netflix Original comedy, by Steven Brill. The story follows an unpopular resident of Salem (Massachusetts) Hubert Dubois (Adam Sandler), who is in his mid-forties and lives with his mother. He is heavily bullied by children and adults alike for being a rule-follower.

On the highly anticipated night of Halloween, disappearances strike the neighbourhood. Hubie, who has elected himself to be on neighbourhood watch for Halloween, finds himself in the midst of strange occurrences throughout the night.

Moreover, Hubie has a new mysterious neighbour, Walter Lambert. Could he be connected to the disappearances throughout the night?

The quest to solve the mysteries is interfered with when a teen and his friend gets involved. Hubie is in love Violet Valentine (Julie Bowen) who was his crush since the second grade. The story follows her foster son (Noah Schnapp) through his battle to be liked by a fellow schoolmate

named Meghan (Paris Berelic) and his experience. The pair bump into Hubie in a corn maze and the group unravels the truth behind the odd occurrences. The plot twist at the end is shocking and enjoyable.

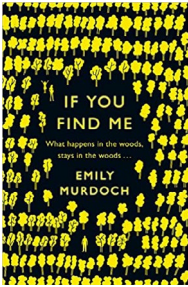
I personally like this film as it is light-hearted and funny and is a Halloween movie that you can enjoy without being jump scared and gore. I would give *Hubie Halloween* a 7/10 for the great cast and the rewatchability. It has a great balance of comedy and mystery and is one of a few Netflix Original Halloween movies for the whole family to enjoy.

The plot is slightly predictable towards the end, but it was an all-round a good movie. Adam Sandler's performance was hilarious and believable and the Noah Schnapp, a child actor, was very inspiring to aspiring, young actors/actresses. Female actress Maya Rudolph also had a comeback as a side role in this movie.

In conclusion, it is an enjoyable movie.

Abi G • Year 10

If You Find Me by Emily Murdoch



If You Find Me is a beautiful book about huge changes and trying to find who you are, mixed with a large focus on learning to trust and family bonds.

I found myself endeared to the main character Carey and her sister Jenessa almost immediately, and became quickly invested in their relationship as sisters, genuinely touched by how they supported each other and watched the other grow throughout the book. The use of flashbacks

creates a fantastic progression of slowly finding out the girls' backstory while also keeping the reader invested in what's happening in real time, leaving you with a continuously growing understanding of how Carey and her sister have grown since they were first introduced.

This book genuinely touched me and almost brought me to tears, being good enough to happily read more than once. I would happily recommend this book to anyone interested in reading, though be aware it contains slightly mature themes.

Arrow C • Year 13

Rogue Legacy 2 (Xbox Series X/S, Xbox One & PC)

Rogue Legacy 2 is a roguelike game. The main premise of the game is that you must go in a castle and get money. You get money by breaking objects opening chests and battling enemies. When you die, you get to pick a new character and upgrade yourself. The money you earn can help buy upgrades like more health or new classes.

The game is fun and has a lots of different stuff to do. Every run of the game is about collecting money to make yourself stronger. Your character has three different abilities. You have your attack to swing your sword a special ability for the class you use and a random magic ability you get. The gameplay loop is to run go through the castle getting money and trying to survive. You will also find challenges that will earn you better rewards. There are



trials you will find in each area that will give you a new ability when complete.

When you spend your money you can buy classes which have a new weapon and playstyle. One class is the archer, which has a bow. This makes it so you don't have to get close to enemies but it is slow to charge up and you can get attacked. Each time you die, you can pick a new class to play but the character you pick has its own traits. These can be funny or completely ruin your run. One of them is when you get 200% more gold but die in one hit, the screen is upside down, every enemy is pixelated and every breakable object will instantly break when touched.

This game is very fun with much content to play and experience. There is a lot to explore in the game with different areas and rooms. ★★★★★

Harry C • Year 8

PUZZLES

Solutions on page 14

Quiz on the House System

1. Who is the head of house for Troy?
2. What is the symbol on the Athens house badge?
3. Which house was temporarily shut down in World War II due to low student numbers?
4. Which house uses the colour purple?
5. Which house has an eagle in its badge?
6. Which house was named after a city state also known as Lacedaemon?

Jessica M • Year 8

Spot the 5 Differences



Image: Ruby R • Year 10



Royalty Wordsearch

Q U E E N W T F S G T F S G T J G D G R
 S Y M F X U J C H A R L E S J Y X S F O
 S D E F K H I H G L O P K H V J K G D Y
 R H K N I G H T S S G U E B K N W F E A
 F I M S N E T H Y K D C T J A B R C D L
 C I G C G N Y U H X X S C J H D D R F T
 J S G D G F R M B V V F H Y E B X O B Y
 Y I N V I V N H F Y V C E B N Y S W Y N
 H R U T N C E V X D F C D F R T R N X M
 F F F R T Z H A R R Y Q T Y Z D V T H X
 J T G R C V F X D V J J H H N Z F N T H
 H U U K L P L M B H M R B S R E U A J T
 B N Y C S G U K N P R I N C E S S E D S
 V F E D I N B U R G H S G E P R I N C E

Words to Find

- Queen
- Charles
- Knight
- King
- Sir
- Crown
- Henry
- Harry
- Royalty
- Prince
- Princess
- Edinburgh

Noah B-G • Year 7



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