



How to Spend Your Summer

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Eve Spurr, Year 7

Roll up, roll up, summer has arrived but how will you spend this (sometimes) heated time of year?

In the summer, as you walk down the streets, you expect to see children playing, swimming pools out and people tanning in their gardens. But is this a true representation of the British summer? Many people don't like summer because of its heat and tendency to spring an uncalled for need to take shelter from the rain. Another reason is the dramatic extremes. It can go from scorching hot to freezing cold and then back to boiling again. What should you do?

Never fear, because here are some tips to maximise

your summer:

- Go to the local, indoor pool. This way you can stay cool even when the rain falls.
- Learn a new hobby. You could learn knitting, singing, dancing or even a musical instrument!
- Play a sport. You could join a sports team or even just get a bike and go for a ride.
- Start a radio station or YouTube channel. Many people do this but you never know, your boredom could become a huge success.
- Craft projects! Just grab a friend and some craft materials and then get going!

There's so much fun stuff to do in summer so don't spend the whole of your holidays staring at a screen, feeling bored... Get out and have FUN!

Summer Challenge

It's summer and The Torch needs you!

The word 'sun' appears in TWELVE different places within this issue (excluding this page!). Can you help us to locate them all?

Have a good look through the issue and find them all.

Then bring your copy to Miss Taylor before the end of term. The first five winners will receive a chocolatey surprise and others will receive e-Praise points!



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

As the end of the school year approaches, it is an appropriate time to reflect upon our many achievements this year.

We began the year in September by celebrating last summer's GCSE examination results, which were very pleasing in spite of the late changes to the examination system introduced by Mr Gove, the previous Secretary of State for Education. A Level results were again very good with all students gaining a place at the university of their choice. Although we have received many accolades for other aspects of our work throughout the year, these results are our most significant achievement as the academic progress of our students remains at the very core of our purpose, ensuring that students can make positive choices in the next stage of their lives.

We are, of course, proud of all our students' achievements and throughout the year the Pantomime, Concerts, Movement Evening, Love Languages Evening, Drama productions, Sports Awards Evening and our end of year Celebration Assemblies have given us the opportunity to celebrate our students' wealth of talent.

The recent Y11 and Y13 proms, held at the New York Stadium and Sheffield City Hall respectively, were a huge success, enjoyed by the students and the many staff who attended. It is hard to believe that the sophisticated young men and women dressed in their finery were in school uniform taking examinations in the School Hall only a couple of weeks before. As always, the end of the school year is tinged with sadness as we say goodbye to staff who are leaving to take up new posts elsewhere due to promotion or relocation and those leaving to pursue other avenues. We thank them all for the positive contribution they have made to Wath Comprehensive School and wish them every success in their future careers.

This year, we also say goodbye to a number of staff who are retiring, many of whom have worked at the school for many years. In addition to Mr Ian McGrath (Drama) and Mr Stephen Mapplebeck (Technology) who retired earlier in the year, we also give our best wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement to Mrs Clare Haw (RE), Mrs Pauline Elston (Science), Mrs Jane Shaw (Geography), Mrs Lesley Renner (Head of Faculty, Technology), Mr Dave Bailey (Academic Year Leader), Mr Nigel Bemrose (Assistant Head, Director of Language College) and Mr Richard Naylor (Assistant Head, Head of Sixth form). We thank them for their hard work and commitment in support of our students over so many years.

Could I finally take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support and wish you a happy and relaxing summer holiday.

Whatever your Genre

Whatever Your Style

Wath
Creative
Writers

Whatever You Write

Wath Creative Writers Group

Share your ideas

Receive feedback

All year groups. All abilities welcome. Have your writing read, read the work of others in a friendly, supportive environment.

Join the group and you get:

Access to Wath Writers Forum

Half term group for feedback/skills workshop

Mrs P Ward
Headteacher



News in Brief

Y6 Induction



Wath Comprehensive were very proud to welcome our new Year 7s into school for their three transition days. The Year 6 students from many primary schools in the area were involved in lots of different activities to prepare themselves for their September start. Rockets were being fired in Technology, delicious cookies made in Food and the gorgeous weather allowed for rounders and football to be played on the field. They left feeling very excited about what Wath can offer them in the new academic year.

School Meal Prices 2015-2016

Following a decision taken by Full Council on 4th March 2015, the price of all meals is to rise by 10p from 1st September 2015.

The price of a paid Secondary School Pupil Meal remains exceptional value at £2.20 for a healthy two course freshly prepared meal. As cash cafeteria style pricing is used within Wath Comprehensive, a new tariff will be displayed in September.

The full list of meal prices are shown below:

- Paid Pupil Meal £2.20 (Full Meal, Meal Deal Price)
- Paid Staff Meal £3.00 (Full Meal, Meal Deal Price)

Internal Charges:

- Free Pupil Meal £2.30
- Free Staff Meal £2.55

Thanking you in anticipation of your assistance.

Leading the Way in Rotherham Enterprise Education

Wath Comprehensive is one of Rotherham's Champion Schools for Enterprise (CSfE) along with four primary schools. The group is run by Ready Unlimited, a company who help schools enhance and improve their Enterprise and work related learning, and meets regularly to share good practice and improve enterprise education provision at each school. The current focus is based on integrating industry-related learning into the curriculum.



Impressive display of everything we have done at Wath.

In June 2015, at the CSfE's first event, I showcased Wath Comprehensive's Enterprise Education provision. This involved talking about and sharing ideas based on each school's innovations so I displayed our work on Enterprise Challenges, business links, the enterprise club, work with Sheffield Hallam University, Enterprise and Career Passports and work with the Sheffield Local Enterprise Project...to name but a few!

The secondary and primary schools were extremely impressed by our provision. Many said they would like to start using an Enterprise Passport as a method of recording and assessing enterprise experience and skills in their primary school and the secondary schools were impressed and curious as to how we had achieved so much in such a big school.

Catherine Brentnall, the Managing Director of Ready Unlimited, said, "Wath has an excellent programme of enterprise, careers and work related learning that is the result of the school's commitment to developing and improving provision over time. Enterprise learning happens inside and outside of the curriculum, and provides inspiring and exciting opportunities for students to develop and practise their employability skills and broaden their knowledge about the world of work and business."

I would like to thank everyone, whether staff or students, at Wath who participates in and supports Enterprise Education as without you we would not be leading the way in secondary schools in Rotherham.

In, Out and About: School

Perfect Wildlife Park

By Lucy Booth, Year 7



A private meeting with the animals.

On Friday 12th June, a group of Year 7 students went on a trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park. It was a great day out and we didn't have to wear uniform.

We went to the turning circle at 8:45 am, and the coach set off at 9:00 am. When we arrived, we had our educational visit. We could hold a cockroach and stroke a snake and a stick insect. The teacher who I was going round with was Miss Breedon.

Afterwards, we looked around the animals. My favourite animals were the polar bears and the meerkats. When we saw the lenas, another school was in. One student was eating an apple and suddenly the animals ran up to her and tried to get it.

All of that group was scared as we were laughing. That was our cue to leave. This was the funniest bit.



Playing peekaboo on a sunny day.

My favourite part was looking around the animals because they were so cute. The part I didn't like was that we were a bit rushed to look around at the end.

We arrived back at school by 5 past 3. It was a great day out.

Teachers: Behind the Scenes

By Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith, Year 8

On Thursday 2nd July, the curtains opened to present the latest school production: *Teachers* (No, this isn't a spelling mistake!)



A match to rival Wimbledon.

Teachers, by John Godber, is a comedy that illustrates the many anxieties in current education, and, to quote John Godber, is a comedy, which is also deadly serious. It takes you on a journey through the winding corridors of Whitewall High, a comprehensive school which suffers greatly and is regarded as a "special priority area", through the eyes of three students: Hobby, Gail and Salty, who are leaving and are looking back on their time at school. It is performed as a play within a play format, and combines serious drama with hilarious jokes.

But how was Wath's version of this classic comedy? Fantastic! Each actor performed with full enthusiasm and all deserve immense praise. We caught up with the cast to delve deeper behind the scenes into what made a spectacular show.

Amy Renwick (Oggy Moxon) said, "I really enjoyed

Trips and Other Events

rehearsal for *Teachers* because we had some laughs, but lots of lines to learn!”

Abigail Woods (Mrs Parry) added, “Honestly, the rehearsals have been full on and high pressured, but it wouldn’t be a true piece of drama if they weren’t. The cast have all been hands on, and it’s been a pleasure acting with them. I think we’ve all grown closer because of it, through sharing laughs or sharing Mrs Hardwick’s digestives. I’d like to thank Mrs Hardwick and Mr McHale for once again setting a beautiful production; without them our Monday and Thursday nights would be so tedious.”

With rehearsals taking place every Monday and Thursday, and some finishing as late as 4:30, it takes a high level of commitment to maintain such a position.

Mia Hollingsworth-Smith (Gail) told us: “Having a role in a play requires total dedication: as well as rehearsals, we have to use the majority of our spare time – learning lines, learning cues, developing our characters and learning the play as a whole! But the experience on stage is worth it!”



Wake up, girls, there’s a play to perform!

In addition to the cast’s commitment and performance, Mr McHale and Miss Hardwick should be commended for organising the production and being excellent directors, as well as all the work in lighting and sound, as without them, the production wouldn’t have been possible!

If you didn’t make it to this spectacular performance, make sure you keep your eyes open for forthcoming dramatic productions in September!

Romeo and Juliet

By Olivia Parkes, Year 10

On Wednesday 1st July, small groups of specially chose Y9 and Y10 students took a 2 hour journey to Stratford-Upon-Avon. The weather was incredibly warm, and the students got way too excited because of the air-con.

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Stratford-Upon-Avon: Home of Shakespeare and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

We took part in a number of activities; my group started with a drama workshop. The workshop, was really fun and engaging, the activities were not at any point boring, and everybody joined in. Activities included; ‘pass the clap’, ‘freeze-frame’, ‘traffic lights’ and many more. After this activity, the groups were given an hour free-time to go shopping, or get food, or simply just chill, which gave us some independence.

After the break, we had a tour around the birthplace of Shakespeare, and I found it quite fascinating to look at how life in the past has adapted to life today. Outside his birthplace was a court, where other various activities were available for us to participate in such as acting and shops. After all this, another hour and fifteen of free time was given to us, and most of us spent that time wisely by buying ice-cream or sunbathing!

The coach journey home was slightly vexatious as we had to re-route due to a chemical spillage on a motorway, which delayed what was meant to be a two-hour journey to a four-hour one instead, which, in the heat, felt murderous, and the stop-off at the station was more than necessary!

Welly Wanging

This half-term, the Maths and English department teamed up for their annual welly wanging competition. Y7 Maths students threw wellies as far as they could, then they used their experience in English to write. Here is the winning entry:

Autobiography of me,

Wilfred the Welly

By Charlotte Spiby, Year 7

I started off in the factory. I was green at first but they decided to change me to blue and red. I was bought by a company called Hunters and sold to a boy named Frankie. I was a size 2 so I fit Frankie perfectly. We went on many adventures such as going in the snow, in the forest, and on many school trips. I had been in many conditions like rain, hot sun, and even in some dog poo.

After a year or so I came to the most upsetting time of my life; Frankie became a size 3. Frankie's mum said I had to go and that I was being replaced. Over the next two weeks, people were bidding for me on eBay and I was eventually sold to a man named Mr Allonby for a tenner.

My life at Mr Allonby's house was great. I was given to his son. I had been living there for many years but when his son had grown a size, my worst nightmare was just beginning...

I was going to be used for welly wanging. I was going to be thrown by over 300 students over the vast green grass of Wath Comprehensive's school field.

19th June 2015 arrived. The year 7 students lined up, ready to throw me. My rubber heart was beating far too fast as the first of many stepped up. I think her name was Charlotte. She picked me up, got her aim ready, and let me go. I shot through the sky like a racing car launching to the finish line. I began to fall to the ground.

BANG!

There I was, still OK.

After I was launched a couple of times, I started to enjoy it. It was like I was flying, and I've always wanted to fly. I can't wait to do it again in the future.



Creative Zone:

Inspired by the recent (if brief) heat wave, students were asked to write a short story (less than 100 words) about summer for this month's edition.

Here are the winning entries.

A Turn for the Worse!

By Joshua Battersby, Year 8

We were going on holiday! My blood was pulsing through me as I ran to the car. Suddenly, I was stopped in my tracks when Dad said we had a flat tyre! While my dad rang the garage, I stared with wonder into the sky, wondering what it was going to be like when we got there. Lost in my own thoughts, ten minutes went by, by the time I realised the car was sorted. Off we went in the car for that long, arduous two hour journey. The car finally pulled to a halt... but it was raining!

Unexpected Weather

By Daisy Turton, Year 7

Another day to relax and take in the sun, which showed no signs of going in. The blazing rays struck hard, giving me a thousand burns, every day. A change, a nice one, from the weird and miserable rain of England.

But today was odd. A sense of fear filled the unusually cloudy air. Suddenly, I ran, ran for my life as a whining wind destroyed everything in its path. Tornado Italia had struck!

Into the Wild

By Jake Pepper, Year 7

One hot day in summer, my friends and I adventured into the menacing woods. Suddenly, we stumbled over a small, old treehouse. As we sneaked inside, we saw a massive spider. We stormed out of the treehouse and fell into a hole. Then it started to rain, so we had to make camp where we were. Everyone gathered wood and leaves that fell into the hole. We made a small round camp, that had four beds, a table and even four chairs.

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Summer Short

Farm Life

By Emma Bradbury, Year 7

In summer, when the leaves are green and the beach sounds are warm, the animals are out and the foxes hunt. The fox tears through the rabbit while the red blood pours out. And the farmer says it's time to kill the pigs for bacon and to pick the blackberries for the market. But what will happen to Mr Fox when the hunting season starts and the farmers pick up their guns...?

Summer Story

By Daisy Turton, Year 7

With the temperature rising, I could feel sweat dripping from my head, which was protected from the sun. Weird. We were here, Spain, glorious Spain. With sun pounding on my legs that were as pale as Snow White's face, I felt myself tremble and a cold, sharp shiver viciously ran down my spine. Eventually, I came to realise that it was actually the pool that had sub-zero temperatures, and that was why everyone was avoiding it. Instead of having a dip in the unswimmable pool, I decided to take to the sunbed and get myself a tan. Which was never going to happen!

Summer Diaries

By Olivia Lumb, Year 7

Dear Diary,

Today is the first day of the summer holidays, and four days until my birthday. I'm probably the most excited I've ever been. I'm going to Filey, and it's going to be good. I hope so, anyway! Let's hope my brother doesn't get as bad hayfever as last year.

Today, I'm going to Pizza Hut for tea with my mum, dad and brother. Then we are going bowling. My mum has just changed jobs so she has the whole six weeks off to spend with us. I'd better start getting ready now. Write soon! Bye.

Dear Diary,

Today is the last day of summer. I'm extremely upset and nervous. Tomorrow, I'm a Year 8 student, as school starts again! I've had an extremely funny summer.

This summer, I've been on holiday. We went to Disneyland Paris. It was amazing. There were about fifty rides (I went on every one) and the fireworks at night were incredible. It was the best holiday I've ever been on. I definitely want to go again. I don't have a favourite ride as they were all amazing.

Write tomorrow. Bye.

A Late Spring Song

Cerys Bates and
Adorabella Huzzey-Jones, Year 7

Springtime is the best time of the year.

People laugh and play.

Running and playing, so much fun

Including sunbathing in the sun.

Nothing can be as good as spring.

Get moving, no time to waste

Time is ticking to spring goes.

In comes summer, still sunny.

Me and my friends love the sun!

Everyone loves the sun!

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Glitz and Glamour



Look at all those rolled down blazer sleeves and tucked in shirts (above)! Mr Bailey stands proudly among the Year 11s (below). New York Stadium is beautifully lit up for the night of celebration (bottom).

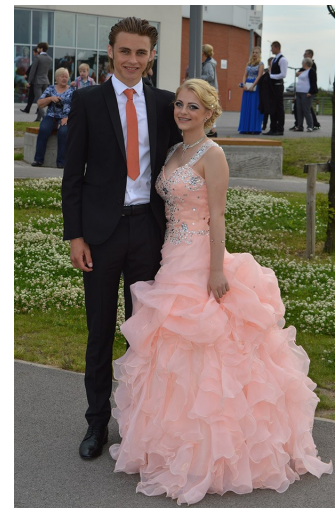
After months of anticipation, weeks of dress shopping and hours of hairstyling, the Class of 2015 were ready for the Year 11 prom, which took place on 25th June.

Following a highly successful début last year, the New York Stadium once again hosted the event. The football shirts and studded boots of Rotherham United FC gave way to waistcoats and high heels, as the 1925 Suite was transformed into a luxurious ballroom. Fluorescent lights illuminated the dance floor, while helium balloons in the school colours of maroon and gold made attractive centre-pieces for the adjacent tables.

The students themselves looked stunning. The girls and boys who started at Wath five years ago were transformed into elegant ladies and gentlemen. An array of gorgeous dresses and smart suits adorned the attendees. A professional photographer was on hand to capture the glamour, with many couples and groups of friends having professional portraits taken. In addition, the West Stand was used to take a photo



at the Year 11 Prom



Clockwise from above: Big grins all round. No memorable night would be complete without the odd selfie. Some very impressive dresses. Subconsciously inspired by the film, Frozen? Looking very smart in their suits and ties.

of the whole year group.

The election for the evening's awards was hotly contested, with students voting for the best dressed male and female and, of course, the Prom King and Queen (see panel for a list of winners). Those missing out were given a chance to win a gift in a random draw, with prizes ranging from iPod Shuffles to Samsung tablets.

The night was completed by a buffet and dancing. As ever, the Year 11 students were a credit to Wath Comprehensive School and fully deserved their celebration. We wish every student the best for the future, be it at to Wath's sixth form or elsewhere.



Awards



Prom Queen: Alicia Hartley

Prom King: Max Reeder

Best Dressed Female: Molly Wakefield

Best Dressed Male: Jamie Chaplin

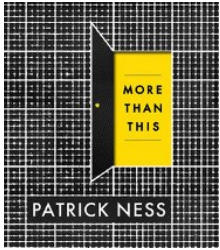
Biggest Geek: Brad Yardy

Year 13 Prom

It is not just Year 11s that we are saying goodbye to, of course. Our Year 13 students also have a prom, this year at Sheffield City Hall. Unfortunately for The Torch, the prom took place on 10th July – after this edition had gone to press. Nevertheless, we are sure that it will have been an enjoyable night for our sixth formers and a fantastic send-off as they move on to the next stage of their lives.



Wath Witty Reviewers:



The One and Only *More Than This*

By Matthew Saxton, Year 7

More Than This (by Patrick Ness) is a book that will grip you from the very first page. When I first picked up more than this, I didn't know what to expect, as the front cover didn't give me any clue.

The story begins when the main character Seth drowns in the ocean. He then wakes to find himself in a mysterious place, a place with no signs of life anywhere. Later on in the story, we meet two other characters who become Seth's friends. I then found myself caught up in an intense and frantic story as to what happened in this place that Seth calls "Hells". The characters then guess what the place is, as they have absolutely no idea where they are.

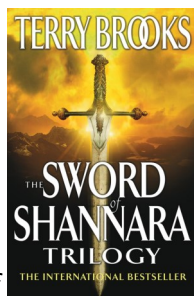
I would recommend this book to anyone, as it had me reading for hours on end because I couldn't put it down.

The Sword Of Shannara

By Shannon Hopwood, Year 10

The Sword Of Shannara is an epic fantasy book, much like *The Lord of the Rings*, written by the vastly underappreciated Terry Brooks. It is the first book in the Original Shannara Trilogy, being both preceded and succeeded by a vast array of other books set in the same world.

This book follows Shea Ohmsford, a half-elf and the last descendant of the great elven king, Jerle Shannara, as he embarks on a perilous quest to save the world from the wrath of the Warlock Lord by recovering the Sword of Shannara, which is an ancient artefact that can destroy the Warlock Lord for good. However, Shea can't undertake this



challenge alone. Once he sets out on his journey, he and his adopted brother, Flick, soon gather together a small group of warriors willing to aid them in their quest to rid the world of a terrible evil. The group must fight their way through armies and hoards of goblins in order to succeed in their quest.

Although this book, to be brutally honest with you, is very similar to *The Lord of the Rings*, I absolutely love this book! The worlds in which they are set are definitely alike in many ways. However, whereas *The Lord of the Rings* is set in a time long before the world we know today even existed, Terry Brooks has set this book many years in the future, after nuclear war has destroyed our civilisation. This war forced the humans to adapt into creatures, such as dwarves, gnomes, goblins and trolls. The elves, who were around long before the fall of civilisation and were descended from magical beings, are also mortal; instead of having ridiculously long lives, they live only slightly longer than regular humans. All of this history makes the book much more believable as you find out about these interesting creatures.

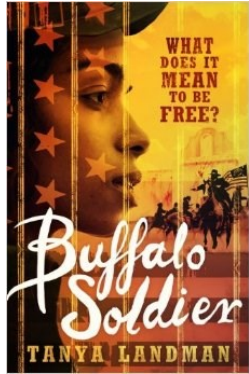
However, one thing stands out as the best thing about this book: it is very interesting and detailed without becoming incredibly long-winded and dull, something which *The Lord of the Rings* failed to achieve. There are no chapters that are mostly descriptions of an inconsequential building or forest. In this instance, *The Sword of Shannara* is the embodiment of the saying "less is more", which I find that this makes the book far more enjoyable as, in most cases, you are left to come to your own conclusions about how things look, rather than have a huge amount of description thrown at you.

I feel that the point of reading a book, such as this one, is to lose yourself in a new and exciting land that is very different from the world you see when you look outside, which is definitely an experience that you get when you read *The Sword Of Shannara*. It is beautifully written and is a great read for anyone to enjoy. It is perfect for when you are stressed or bored as it allows you to completely

Six Books for Summer



immerse yourself in its pages for hours on end. I would definitely recommend that you read this book over the holidays. You will not regret it at all. It is available from both Amazon and the Apple store for a very good price. What are you waiting for?



Buffalo Soldier

By Molly Hammerton, Year 7

Welcome to the old west, where nowhere is safe from anyone anymore. Meet the main character, a slave girl who lives in the service of Mr Delaney. Soon, her boss gets a new wife, the cruel and picky, Miss Louellen, who hates her rotten. But, life just gets worse. Her friend and only source of comfort, Cookie, finds love with the new smithy and no longer stands by her.

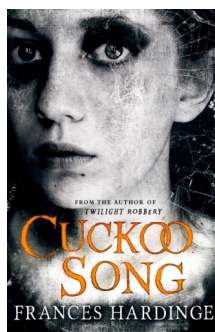
This is a very fascinating book since you begin to see through the character's eyes as her life is turned upside down by a civil war that rips through the land, forcing her to choose between killing or being killed.

I really enjoy this novel and I think that, if you decide to read it, you will not be able to put it down until you have finished it. It has even won the Carnegie award, so if that many people enjoyed it, you definitely will.

The Cuckoo Song

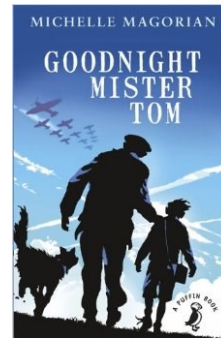
By Abbie Taylor, Year 7

The Cuckoo Song is one of the best books I have ever read, as it is very descriptive and takes the reader on a journey with an eleven-year-old girl, called Triss, and her little sister, who are left to fend for themselves in the wilderness, alone in the world. Along the way, she encounters mysterious creatures called "The Besiders", who make her life a living hell. These beings are controlled by a force far more evil than them and we find out that their



presence in the wilderness is for more important than Triss ever thought.

I adore this book and would definitely recommend it to everyone. I would give this book five stars for its amazing cliff-hangers. You will not be able to put the book down until you have finished.



Goodnight Mister Tom

By Shanelle Elliott, Year 8

This book has a detailed insight as to what it would be like to live as an evacuee during World War II. William ("Willie") has been kept from all things fun with his mum. However, when he goes to live with Mr Tom in a village called Little Weirwold where he meets a group of fellow evacuees who show him a whole new world and what life could be like.

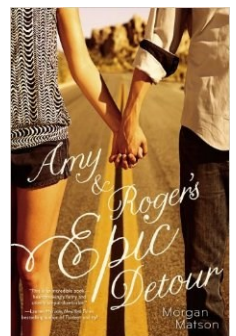
I would recommend this book to any history lover and non-fiction reader as, if you need any information, this is a really good book for you to enjoy. It is also a good family film.

Amy and Roger's Epic Detour

By Anonymous, Year 10

Amy and Roger's Epic Detour is a non-fictional book based around a young girl struggling with the death of her father. When her mother decides to travel to Connecticut, Amy has to follow her with only one problem. She hasn't been able to drive since her father's death. When one of her childhood friends offers to drive her, they decide to take a trip of a lifetime across America.

This book is a heartfelt story about the struggles of a young girl in which every girl can relate to in one way. I would recommend it to everyone who loves the John Green books.



Film Review: The Hobbit Trilogy

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By Shannon Hopwood, Year 10

After a long wait, the much anticipated final instalment to The Hobbit trilogy has arrived and is now available on DVD. This finally completes the prequel to The Lord of the Rings, which fans have been wanting since the original movies came out.

The original book, written by J.R.R Tolkien, and the movies (directed by Peter Jackson, who also directed *The Lord of the Rings*) follow the journey of a peace-loving hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, a company of rowdy dwarves and a wizard, Gandalf, as they go on an epic adventure to the Lonely Mountain. Their aim? To reclaim Erebor, a great underground city that once belonged the dwarves, from the fearsome dragon, Smaug, who had claimed the mountain as his own some time ago. The story shows the trials and difficulties that this small company encounters on their lengthy journey.

I have always loved the fascinating and enchanting world that Tolkien built up in The Hobbit and I think that the films have done a fantastic job of capturing that aspect of the book. From the halls of Erebor, to the wooden houses of Lake Town, the movies do not fail to capture the magnificence of the books.

However, the films are far from perfect. For example, the first two films place a lot of focus on reclaiming the Lonely Mountain from Smaug, but

rather than killing the dragon at the end of the second movie to set up the plot for the third one, he was actually killed five minutes into the final movie. This was more than a little disappointing, as the ending of the second movie led me to believe that there would be an epic fight against Smaug, which there was, but it appeared very rushed and overlooked.

Secondly, The Hobbit was a fairly short book, as compared with any one of the Lord of the Rings books, which is why it annoys me that it was split up into three films because it would have been so much better if it had only been one film. I hate it when the directors and producers of these movies choose to split a book into multiple movies for the sole purpose of raking in more money. Did it not occur to these guys that they were written as individual books for a reason? Doing that makes the film seem very slow as they have to fill it with so many filler scenes that you feel like fast-forwarding through it all, just so that you can get to the good parts before you fall asleep. It was definitely not necessary to split The Hobbit into three films.

Overall, despite those large flaws, I would definitely recommend these movies to others who liked the Lord of the Rings or are interested in the genre. Although, if you do decide to undertake the challenge of watching the trilogy, you should prepare to be sat there for a very long time.

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Preparing for an adventure.

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Thorin: hero or a villain? He just can't seem to decide.

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One small thief... one heck of a large pile of gold.

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Smaug: Great character, disappointing death.

Literacy Focus: Apostrophes

By Aaron Duce, Year 7

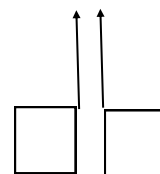
Apostrophes are used to show **omission** (missing letters), or **possession** (one thing belongs to something else). Practice your skills below and bring your newspaper to Miss Taylor in the English department to receive an e-Praise point!

Put the missing apostrophe, or apostrophes, into the sentences below:

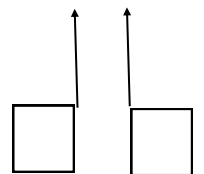
- 1) Were going to go to the cinema.
(1 to find)
- 2) Youre late to class!
(1 to find)
- 3) I attempted the homework but I cant do it because its too hard.
(2 to find)
- 4) Were going to go out for tea at Pizza Hut today, because theyre pizzas are amazing!
(2 to find)
- 5) Weve tried to find the pencils, but we cant find them anywhere!
(3 to find)
- 6) My pens at home; it ran out of ink, so were going to get some refills from Tesco.
(2 to find)

Put a tick in the box where the apostrophe should go:

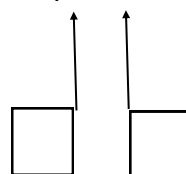
1) Children s



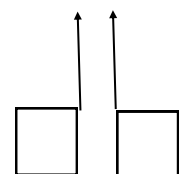
2) We re



3) They re



4) You re



Politics and Current Affairs:

A small skirt comes back big

By Hannah Stokes Y7

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The online waiting list had over 800 names on it and, since it came back in stock, has now risen to over 3,500 names. Last time that Marks & Spencer managed to convince women to get something, it was a pink coat, but now this simple suede skirt has topped its record. At a retail price of £199, it seems not even price can get in the way of this skirt's ever growing

THE TORCH Journalists

This edition was produced by Mya Taylor, Aaron Duce, Mia Hollingsworth-Smith, Hannah Stokes, Shannon Hopwood, Ethan Gray, Eve Spurr, Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith, Charles Lord and Miss Taylor. Thanks also to Abbie Taylor, Matthew Saxton, Molly Hammerton, Lucy Booth, Shanelle Elliott, Joshua Battersby, Charlotte Spiby, Jake Pepper, Olivia Lumb, Daisy Turton, Emma Bradbury, Cerys Bates, Adorabella Huzzey-Jones, our anonymous contributors, Mrs Wall, Mr Bishop and Miss Perry. Special thank, too, to all the teachers, unsung heroes, without whom each issue wouldn't be what it is: Mr Taylor, Mrs Ward, Miss Breedon, Mr Staniforth, Mrs Bradshaw, Mrs Boyd, Mr McHale, Mrs Eyre, Miss Anyon, Mrs Demetriou, Miss Jackson, Mrs Frith, Mrs Laite, Mrs Cunningham, Mrs Cartwright and Mrs Sanders.

If you are interested in helping to produce THE TORCH next year, we are always looking for more journalists! Come along to F24 on Thursday afternoons, 3-4 pm, or see Miss Taylor for more information.

popularity. In recent years, Marks & Spencer has struggled to entice women into buying their clothing range, but is this a sign that things are changing for the better?

EU: In or Out?

By Ethan Gray, Year 8

In modern politics, politicians are faced with many unsatisfied Britons because of the immigration level in this country. Currently, politicians and people on the street alike are debating the key question: should we leave the European Union?

FOR:

In Britain, currently, the main reason for leaving the EU is because of immigration. As members of the EU, we have hardly any power to control our immigration system. So, as a result of leaving, we would be able to control our immigration system and allegedly create 'open spaces' for non-workers of Britain. However, though some people may strongly believe in the trading pros of being in the EU, people like Nigel Farage argue that we can still have a strong trade outside of the EU, with countries such as Norway. In addition, as mentioned on the BBC News Online, the EU have been slowly taking away countries in preparation for the NWO (New World Order), which doesn't sound promising.

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AGAINST:

On the other hand, if we did leave the EU, it would make Britain's future very uncertain. Our agreements could make a turn for the worst as our trading plan with Norway is still uncertain and if it does change for the worst, we would have to turn back embarrassingly to the EU where we'll end up with a worse deal than

Wath Students Speak Out

before as our trading is extremely great in Britain because of our cheap trading fees. Also, if we divorce the EU, it'll have a negative effect on businesses as trading fees with countries will increase, which'll bankrupt many businesses. In addition, although around 2 million jobs may be created if we leave, many TNCs (Trans-National cooperations) such as the car company 'Nissan' would have to vacate Britain which would result in 3 million people losing jobs, which would mean that 1 million people would ultimately be worse off if we left.

In my opinion, I believe that we should stay with the EU as staying has a lot more pros than cons and if we do decide to leave, we have an uncertain future. However, we have to take into consideration that we are not participating in the referendum until 2017 which is a long time away where anything can change, so at this stage in time, it is still hard to make a fully considered opinion by reading the news and carefully thinking about it.

Over 1,000 new words added to the Scrabble dictionary

By Anonymous, Year 7

Recently, thousands of new, slang words have been added to the Scrabble dictionary. Some of these words are lolz, shizzle, obv, emoji, bezzy and ridic. About 6,500 words have been added to the scrabble dictionary. The Scrabble dictionary includes words from Australia, Canada, South Africa, the UK and the US in a single list.

"Dictionaries have always included formal and informal English, but it used to be hard to find printed evidence of the use of slang words," Helen Newstead said, "Now people use slang in social media posts, tweets, blogs, comments, text messages - you name it - so there's a host of evidence for informal varieties of English that simply didn't exist before."

Personally, I think that this is a very good idea because people cannot always make the suitable words with the letters that they have.

"Yes, because there are lots of new words to choose from," said Hannah Stokes, a Year 7 correspondent.

However, many professional players are disappointed and cross about the change because it adds many "cheating" words, which are easy to make. This takes away from the difficult thing of trying to find the harder words and makes it so amateurs cannot learn the proper vocabulary which used to be important in Scrabble.

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To conclude, I think that both sides of the argument have given valid opinions about what has happened but I don't think that the professional players will be getting their original dictionary back because it has already being added and printed.

The Tunisia Shootings

Shannon Hopwood, Year 10

On Friday the 26th of June, about 10 kilometres north of the city of Sousse, Tunisia, thirty-eight people were murdered when a man, who was later identified as a Tunisian student, Seifeddine Rezgui, began shooting indiscriminately at a tourist resort outside Hotel Riu Imperial Marhaba.

Reports say that he arrived at the beach on a jet ski at 11:30 in the morning, before opening fire on innocent bystanders, lounging by the sea. After that, he ran into the hotel's pool and lobby area, where he shot more tourists and staff, before beginning to throw grenades into the building. Rezgui fled the scene of the crime, running back out along the beach, where he was filmed by a bystander. Then, he began to retreat further inland, still armed with his gun and at least one grenade, where he was cornered and shot dead. During the attack there were also reports of shots being fired one the neighbouring hotels, Hotel Riu Bellevue Park.

There are multiple rumours surrounding this tragic event, including speculations that a second attacker was present. This has yet to be confirmed as the truth.

Sport and Music



Sponsored Walk

On Friday 10th July, students from Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 went on a sponsored walk around the Wath area, to raise money for the school. Students were dismissed from lessons at 11am to have an early lunch and then were released from tutor groups at staggered intervals from 11.30am.

The hilly five-mile walk takes in the picturesque area around the school, from the Observatory, to Hooper farms, the outskirts of Wentworth, many small winding lanes, fields and stiles, and eventually ending back at the school after a couple of hours. Prior to the event, many students were busy collecting sponsors, and every student who took part paid £1 for Stand (which can be seen from miles away), past two non-uniform on the day. All funds raised will help to pay for rewards for students, such as end of year school trips and e-Praise prizes. It was a great afternoon for everyone involved.

<p>WALLY THE WATH WOMBAT</p> <p>It was test result day. Pius, Wally and Hubert had high hopes. If Wally got an A*, he would be able to go to Spain.</p>	<p>Hubert and Wally said good luck to Pius and kept walking to school.</p>	<p>Wally and Hubert walked in to the hall and collected their envelopes.</p>
<p>Hubert got an A*. Wally prised open the envelope, closed one eye, pulled out the sheet with his results on. He got an A*.</p>	<p>Wally, Pius and Hubert all grabbed their suitcases and got on the train to Manchester airport.</p>	<p>Wally, Hubert and Pius arrived in Spain. Find out how their adventures went after the holidays!</p>