



## LONDON TERROR ATTACK

By Ethan Gray, Year 10  
and Caitie Swallow, Year 8

Five people have been killed in an attack in Westminster, London on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

The attack took place outside of the Houses of Parliament and killed five people, injuring many more.

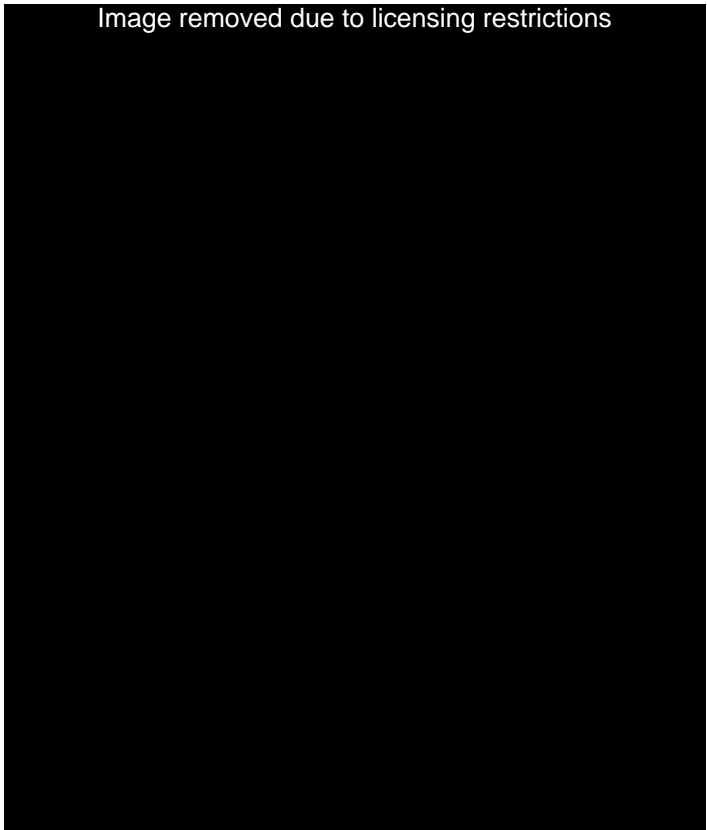
However, the hell didn't stop there. The attacker, Khalid Masood, then took to driving down the pavement of Westminster, mowing down 52 pedestrians.

A group of French schoolchildren, aged 5-6, were on a tour of London at the time and fortunately escaped uninjured, but will be unable to forget the traumatic event. Eye witnesses say that they will never forget the image of the car running into people and the screams of onlookers. The eye witnesses consoled each other after the attack.

The chaos continued just moments later. Masood then crashed his hired Hyundai SUV into the railings in front of parliament. He entered Westminster bearing two large knives, where he stabbed PC Keith Palmer, 48, who died later of his injury.

Other victims included US tourist, Kurt Cochran and college worker, Aysha Frade.

Thanks to the bravery of the police, Masood was finally shot dead – but was it too late?



*The route taken by the terrorist.*

Fortunately, the MPs present in the attack were coerced into lockdown in the House of Commons. At the same time, Prime Minister Theresa May had just voted, but fortunately, she was swiftly taken away to safety in her silver Jaguar.

Tourists will remember this iconic part of London not as a landmark but as a scene of murder.

### Easter Egg Hunt

It's time to go on an Easter egg hunt with *The Torch*! The word 'Easter' appears ten times (not including this page!). Can you locate them all?

If you find them, bring your newspaper back to Miss Taylor in the English department. The first five winners will receive small prizes. Others will receive merits.

Image removed due to licensing restrictions

# Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent / Carer,

As Easter is almost upon us, we can reflect upon another very busy term. There are a wide variety of exciting opportunities available for our students to get involved in and they really do bring a real benefit to a successful all-round education. The annual Movement Evening ran to packed out audiences for three successive nights in February. It was a real joy to see so many students, across all year groups, involved in this exciting event of dance and gymnastics. We really appreciate the inclusion of our local primary schools in these performances and I know that their pupils really do enjoy the opportunity of coming up to 'big' school to perform. In addition, Year 11 Dance students gave an enjoyable recital evening, in preparation for their external assessment, and we had a Piano evening earlier this month where it was a real delight to see so many pianists from the school performing.

World Book Day and Science Week have been celebrated in school and a special evening was put on for parents of Year 8 students, the Next Three Years Evening, to advise on Key Stage 4 subjects – GCSEs and BTECs – that these students will embark on in Year 9. In addition, it was pleasing to see students responding so positively to charitable events that were hosted for Red Nose Day.

Students in Year 11 are sitting new GCSEs in English Language, English Literature and Mathematics this summer. These will be graded 1 to 9, with 9 being the top grade. Broadly, the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4, and above, as currently achieve a grade C and above. Grade 5 will be positioned in the top third of the marks for a current Grade C and bottom third of the marks for a current Grade B. This will mean it will be of greater demand than the present grade C. The new grade 5 will be regarded as a 'strong pass' by the government and represents a new benchmark, for the school and students. A similar proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as currently achieve an A and above. In addition, for each examination, the top 20% of those who get grade 7 or above will get a grade 9 – the very highest grade. At the other end of the scale, the bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of the current grade G.

There are a range of revision sessions being put on by staff over the Easter holiday for Year 11 students, in preparation for the final external exams that begin

shortly after the return for the new term. In addition, Year 12 and 13 students will be starting their revision for their own exams.

At the end of last half term, we said goodbye to Mr Bestford, a long-serving Biology teacher and former Academic Year Leader. At Easter, we see the retirement of Mr Mirrlees, French teacher and, again, a former Academic Year Leader. We will miss both colleagues. I know former students have been extremely appreciative of both, over many decades. We are really grateful for the service they have given to this school and wish them both well in their retirement.

Extra-curricular sport continues to be a major strength of the school, with many fixtures played every week in a variety of sports across all age groups. In the last few weeks alone, we have enjoyed success in the annual Hall Cross 10-a-side rugby tournament and, on 1 April, we have a range of netball and football teams through to the Rotherham Schools Finals.

The end of this spring term is 2.45pm on Friday 7 April and the summer term begins on Monday 24 April. There are Review Days in the first week back for Year 7 students and parents on Wednesday 26 April and for Year 8 on Thursday 27 April.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you a very Happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Taylor

Headteacher

30 March 2017



# News in Brief

## SMSC Club at G20

By Jacob Linney, Year 7

The SMSC Club is a place where you learn about different cultures and things that happen in the world like heroic athletes that inspire others or organisations that help people to deal with hardships daily. It may sound a bit like geography but it is not: it is a completely different, and fun, experience, where you have visitors coming regularly and fun activities – plus, you could find something out you never knew before, like what your name meant or that you and your hero have something in common you never knew! You could make a new friend on the way. So, join us on a Monday in G20!

## Sneaky Slime Sellers!

By Kennedy Ellis and Emily Jackson, Year 7

Recently, the Instagram phenomenon (aka slime) has been sold throughout the school and has been found in many unwanted places. This crazy obsession is made with various different ingredients such as washing detergent (irritant to the skin) and copious amount of glue. There has been a clearance day to rid of any slime in school and if found beyond that day, it will be confiscated. Many that have been found here are called: Fluffy, Sticky, Stretchy, Bubbly slime and even Floam! This new craze started via Instagram, a highly popular social media app. There have been various different slime accounts that post daily videos of ASMR slime tutorials that urge people to make slime. Not only is it a pain to make, it stains clothes and causes irritating problems to the bare skin.

Image removed due to licensing restrictions

Image removed due to licensing restrictions

## Bullying

By Jacob Linney, Year 7

Oh, goodness, where do I even begin with this?

To start: yes, I was once bullied at this school, but eventually I managed to tell someone and from there onwards, it all went uphill and today I'm here to help people who are being bullied, and tell you what it felt like to be bullied.

Okay, first I'm going to tell you what to do if you're being bullied. The very first thing to do is tell someone; believe me, it will really take the weight off your

shoulders. Then, get something done about it, but if you're feeling down, you should write it down somewhere. It may help you in the long run, who knows?

Now, onto what it felt like for me being bullied (and don't worry, I won't be naming names, because last time I checked, they read my articles). It was HORRIBLE. And believe me, depression feels awful.

And the moral is: DON'T BULLY!

## Pokénews

By Abbie Lewis, Year 10

Lately in the world of Pokémon, a special event has taken place. February 27th was Pokémon Day, the special day commemorating the original release of Pokémon Red and Green in Japan back in 1996. To commemorate this day, a special celebratory Pikachu wearing a party hat appeared in Pokémon Go for a limited time, the Online Pokémon Trading Card Game (TCG) gave out holo-mystery boxes, and the shop GAME gave out a special code that allows players of Sun and Moon to gain a free Bottle Cap.

Also, there was a special event that concerned the Pokémon competitive scene. If players signed up to a competition on the Pokémon website via their Gamesync ID, and took part in 3 games with VGC rules, they could obtain two of the Mega Stones not obtainable in Sun and Moon. Mawilite and Beedrillite. However, because of this decision, Nintendo has received lots of backlash. They only made it so that 50,000 places were available, places which were quickly taken up by the pre-informed Japanese player, whilst the rest of us didn't find out until it was almost too late. To attempt to rectify this, Nintendo will be releasing these Mega Stones at a later date. They have also announced what the next stones to be released in competition will be, Pidgeotite and Steelixite.

As many fans of Pokémon will know, the Sun and Moon TCG pack have been released. However, it has been found that these boxes are mappable. This means that the way the packs are arranged in the boxes follows a specific pattern. You only have to open two packs, and from that you can tell where all the Ultra rare cards are. Companies have been working out where the Ultra rare cards are and removing these packs from the boxes, only selling the common rares. Nintendo is currently under fire for making this possible.

Finally, the Nintendo Switch has been released! It cost £300 and hopefully, the secretive Pokémon Stars will be released on it and the 3DS.

# Latest News and Updates from

## Science Week 2017

Here is a round up of all the exciting events that happened in school during Science Week:

### Science Week Talks

Throughout Science week, we have had several lectures from external visitors from Sheffield Universities. A level Biologists enjoyed a lecture on hepatitis by Dr Andrew Lee, the A level physics students engaged in discussions with Dr Chris Booth on Mysterious Neutrinos, and a group of Y8 students learnt about venomous animals with Professor Peter Strong. A level biologist and Level 3 BTEC Science students also attended a presentation from Sarah Lowiss, an expert in blood cancers who began her career in nursing and specialised in this area.

### Venomous animals talk

8D1 were fortunate enough to be given a talk from a professor from Sheffield Hallam University during science week. Professor Stone is an expert on venomous animals and kindly gave his time to talk to the class about the work he carries out. The talk was very engaging and the students were able to ask questions throughout. The questions they asked clearly showed they were listening intently to the professor and they seemed to really enjoy the session. The students behaved excellently and were a real credit to the school.

### Do you know your science equipment?

As a bit of fun Mr Lowiss ran a picture quiz for staff, asking staff to identify pictures of various pieces Science equipment. Well done to Mrs Hole who won the top prize. She either has a very good memory of her Science lessons or she got some help with her homework!

### Competitions

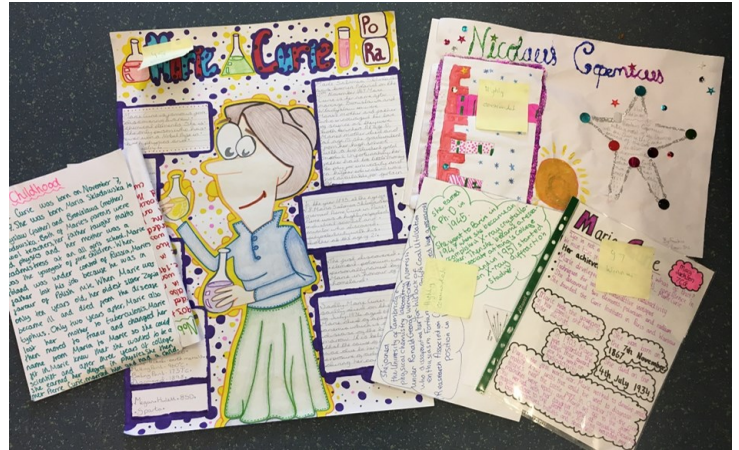
KS3 Famous Scientist Poster Winners:

- Macy Jackson (Year 7 Winner)
- Megan Hulett (Year 8 Winner)

Highly commended :

- Isabella Aaltio (Year 8)

- Emily Loy (Year 8)
- Naomi Grierson (Year 8)
- Frankie Jones (Year 8)

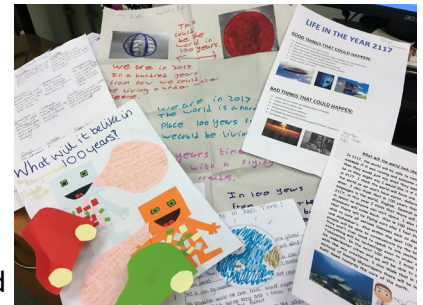


Year 9 Life in the Year 2117 Competition winners:

- Oliver Summerell and Charles Corbett

Highly Commended:

- Cerys Foers
- Madison Beavers
- Grace Dryden
- Ella-Mae Bailey and Isabelle Priestley



Y10 – Y13 Best Thing Since Sliced Bread Competition

Winner: Lauren Czajkowski

“A car is the best invention ever because most people in the world have one. It wouldn't be the same without one. One of the best reasons to have a car is it gives people jobs eg. a taxi driver. A car is good for communication, how could you see friends if they live far away?”

Highly Commended: Louis Mitchell and Megan McCarthy.



# Wath Comprehensive School

## World Book Day

By Daniel Aksunger, Grace Birch and Ben Atkins, Year 7



*Members of staff from many different departments donned costumes to celebrate the day.*

Wath World Book Day is a great event, which most people celebrated on 2nd March, but ours was special: we had it on the 3rd. All the Y7 English teachers chose a couple of well-motivated and excellent readers in their classes to come and dress up as a character from a book and spend a day in the library. A competition was held for the best costume and the winners were: Daniel Aksunger, Alex Dalby and Lucy Binns.

It was a great opportunity for book lovers. We had a lot of fun doing different activities that the teachers and librarians set for us. We decorated biscuits as characters (which we enjoyed eating). We designed a book token for next year's World Book Day. We enjoyed doing quizzes on all different books. We read a twisted fairy tale and had to write one ourselves. One of the funniest things we did was 'Hook-a-Book', where we had to a hook on the end of a bamboo stick and we had to fish for books!

After we had lunch, we were all feeling tired so Miss Hunter read us a section of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, which we then compared to the film Narnia. At the end of the day, we went home tired but happy.

We would just like to thank all of the English teachers and librarians for all they did for us!

## Movement Evening 2017

By Emily Balaiss, Year 9

On the 14th, 15th and 16th of February, Wath Comp held its annual movement evening, starring:

- Year 7 and 8 dance,
- Kamikaze,
- Cheerleading group,
- Gymnastics group,
- and the primary schools that attended.

Over 500 people came to see it across the three nights and they all seemed to love it. "It was thrilling and exciting," said a member of the audience. I thought that it was one of the best and the cheerleading group did some exhilarating stunts, as did the kamikaze with their flips and tricks on the springboards and trampolines.

The name of this show was 'Nightmare on Sandygate' starting with Brad Harvey as the 'Ghost Buster' with his two 'side kicks' who are training to be ghost busters. They brought entertainment while the dancers were getting ready to dazzle the crowd with their amazing moves.

And we can't forget the teachers' dance starring the PE teachers, and as usual they pull off an entertaining and funny dance. I hope you bought a ticket and went to watch it as it was as scary as it was good.

### THE TORCH Journalists

This edition was produced by Jacob Linney, Emily Jackson, Luke Davis, Alex Dalby, Luis Walsh, Ellie-May Beaumont, Emily Aston, Savanna Davies, Carys Garner, Caitie Swallow, Daniel Nutley, Olivia Storey, Lauren Williams, Elizabeth Gray, Emily Balaiss, Molly Hammerton-Woodhouse, Emily Holcroft, Abbie Lewis, Poppy Muffett, Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith, Ethan Gray, Amy Renwick, Mya Taylor, Nemesha Nelson, Eleanor Eagleton (proofreading) and Miss Taylor (editor). Thanks also to Daniel Aksunger, Grace Birch, Ben Atkins, Charlotte Bradley, Lauren Clack, Lauren Clack, Mrs Demetriou (proofreading) and Mr Bishop (online editor).

If you are interested in helping to produce THE TORCH, come along to F24 on Thursday afternoons, 3-4 pm, or see Miss Taylor for more information.

# Beyond the School Gates:

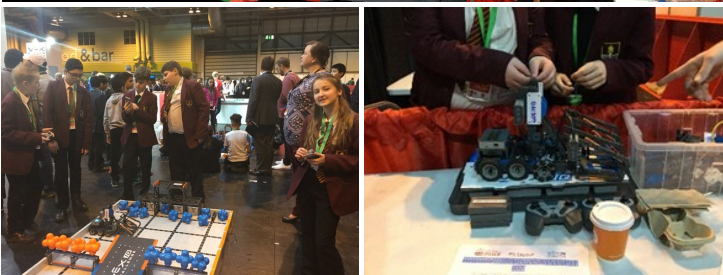
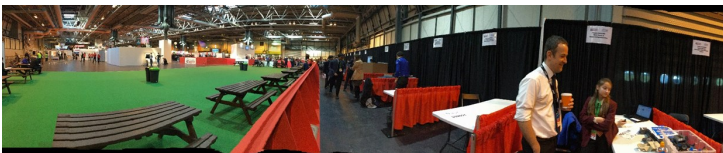
## A Level Biotech day



During Science Week, 25 Year 13 Biology students took part in a biotechnology day at Sheffield University. This allowed them to test their own DNA samples for PTC tasting, the bitter chemical present in sprout. The students extracted their own DNA sample, amplified it and then carried out gel electrophoresis to identify whether or not they carried one or more copies of this gene. The students were able to work in the university labs and use equipment that we do not have in school. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and the students were able to develop new skills and use new equipment in order to complete the task.

## Wath's Time at the VEX IQ British Finals

By Abbie Lewis, Year 10



On the 15th of March, Wath Comp's robotics team went to Birmingham, in an attempt to leave victorious. Well... sadly we didn't win, but we had a great time there!

Wath Comp's team of **Euan McGinness, Gee Gee Mallows, Agata Kleba, Alex Manton, Daniel Nutley and Abbie Lewis**. We, and another team, originally competed in the qualifying round right here in Wath Comprehensive. However, only our team got through to the finals.

After leaving school at 6:15, enduring a two hour journey,

and wandering through the gigantic NEC Building, we finally arrived at our station. We set up our robot, got the computer out, and took it for a test drive. Only to find out all of our programs had stopped working. Of course, panic ensued. Luckily, we managed to fix the programs in time for the drivers challenge round.

Sadly, some of the other teams were a bit... competitive, and wouldn't let us on the ramp, even though we would have got the most points that way.

In the end, even though we didn't win, we still left with bronze medals.

We'd like to thank Mr Wilby and Mr Puttemans for helping us with building the robot and helping us get there.

## Science GCSE Live Trip

By Abbie Lewis and Amy Renwick, Year 10



This year, students in Year 10 were lucky enough to have had the opportunity to visit Sheffield City Hall and listen to many famous scientists talk about what they do. This trip lasted all day and was an amazing experience for all involved.

Our first talk was by Professor Jim Al-Khalili, and was about if time travel could possibly exist. This talk explain how time is relative, that speed and gravity slow space down, and that black holes could possibly be wormholes to a parallel universe.

Dr Simon Singh was the lecturer for the second talk that was about how the Big Bang Theory was thought up, and how the evidence was accidently discovered.

The third talk was by Professor Steve Jones and was about genes, how some traits are genetic, some environmental and why genes are described as 'Chemical Fate'.

Professor Alice Robert explored how we would be able to prove evolution if fossils never existed. This talk explored how most animals share genetic similarities and that all animals evolved from one common ancestor that was exposed to different conditions, causing it to evolve

# Trips Out and About

differently to survive.

The final talk was by Professor Lord Robert Winston, who talked all about Embryology. He went into great detail about cells, like how brain cells make new connections whilst learning or how cell death is an aspect of aging. He also talked about how we may be able genetically modify human embryos in the future. But, he also talked about what problems could arise from this.

Overall, we enjoyed this trip. It was amazing to see these scientists in real life, and if we could go again, we would.

## Romeo and Juliet

By Nemesha Nelson, Year 11

On 15th March, a group of Year 11 students, myself included, went to the West Yorkshire Playhouse to watch *Romeo and Juliet*. It was a weird but wonderful reimagining, with Shakespearean language clashing with a modern setting, and surprisingly, it worked really well. Some of the characters had been changed (Mercutio was a girl!) and several scenes had been rearranged, but the main story was the same, and it was a really helpful experience. Equal parts funny and sad, the cast had the audience captivated, particularly during the various death and fight scenes. It was a long performance, but it definitely didn't drag – even if you aren't studying the play for school, I'd highly recommend it.



Image removed due to licensing restrictions

## Mock Trial

By Lauren Williams, Year 8

On Saturday 18th March, a group of students participated in the Mock Trial Citizenship competition. It was a thrilling event where students got to act in a court situation as lawyers, magistrates and witnesses. Throughout the day the Prosecution Team and Defence Team competed against one school each and enjoyed a very exciting experience. Although they did not win the competition

itself, all the students found the experience very interesting and entertaining and received certificates for participating and also a trophy for the school.



## Creative Corner

### Untitled

By Olivia Storey and Lauren Clack, Year 8

*Last time, the girls reflected on the fact they had killed someone...*

(Lorena's p.o.v) \*same day\*

Libby tried as hard as she could to get me to wake up. But it was no use; I just wanted to curl up into a ball and die. "You couldn't have done anything different," she said. "It was either kill or be killed," and she was right: we had to protect WIS. But there was no going back on the stitches I had already sealed.

### School

By Charlotte Bradley, Year 13

You move time too fast  
There's no way to last.  
7 years I've been trapped  
In this prison, with no escape.  
Summer I will have wrapped.  
A new adventure to shape  
Away from the confines of this place.  
More time spent in schools  
Than my true life.  
It's time to create my own space.  
So, come, take my hand, fingers interlace  
Far away we shall race.

# Conspiracy Corner

Feeling suspicious about the world as it is? Year 10 student Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith takes you through her latest theories... This edition: Are we living in the matrix?

We previously theorised that our society is controlled through conflict, which is controlled by a third party; but who is this third party? Our governments? The “they” that control our governments? What if they are from a different universe all together: super intelligent overlords that are using us as human batteries and trapping us inside a simulation? Yes, I’m being serious...

Are we living in the matrix?

According to physicians, yes – in fact, there’s a one in a billion chance that we’re not living under a matrix-like simulation. Although it may seem a bit far-fetched, ‘simulation theory’ – the idea that we’re living in a simulation or computer programme – has been debated by scientists since 2003.

One of the reasons for this hypothesis is the rapid rate of advances in technology, particularly computer games. Forty years ago we had “Pong”, two rectangles and a dot. Now, we have virtual reality – completely immersive, 3D, 360° simulation. If technology continues to develop at this rate, it’s

not unlikely that we’ll be able to simulate consciousness in the future.

“We may be able to fit humans into our simulation boxes within a century,” says Silas Beane, a nuclear physicist at the University of Washington in Seattle.

According to Moore’s law – a formula that proposed computer power will double every 24 months – in 100 years, the power in computers will be 1.126 quadrillion times more powerful than our current models today. As computers become more capable over the years, they’ll be able to create an artificial intelligence that believes it consciously exists.

What’s more, the most powerful supercomputers of today are able to run a technique called lattice quantum chromodynamics, which is a formula that simulates the barebones of an atom – the gluons, quarks and protons. We can now simulate a very small portion of the Universe, measured to roughly the scale of 100-trillionth of a meter – so a million years of technological advancement could easily simulate a whole universe!

Therefore, it’s not unlikely that we could be one of these artificial intelligences or simulations – a simulation run by humans from a “base reality” simulating other realities. In fact, if you factor in the possibility that we’ll be able to create simulations in the future, there’s a billion to one chance that we’re already living in one.

Another reason to believe that the universe is a simulation is the fact that it behaves mathematically and is broken up into pieces (subatomic particles) like a pixelated video game. “Even things that we think of as continuous – time, energy, space, volume – all have a finite limit to their size. If that’s the case, then our universe is both computable and finite. Those properties allow the universe to be simulated,” said Rich Terrile, a scientist at Nasa’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

It’s impossible for a computer to hold unlimited amounts of data so if our universe is a simulator, there has to be a boundary. It turns out that there is such a boundary, known as the GZK (Greisen-Zatsepin-Kuzmin) cut off. The formerly mentioned Silas Beane investigated the effects of cosmic rays when they collide into the GZK boundary, and found that they completely vanish, thus concluding “the answer, statistically speaking, is that we’re more likely to be living in a simulation”.

So, if the laws of physics and statistics support the simulation hypothesis, one question remains: why would a higher intelligence simulate a reality in the first place?

## Easter Word Search

If you find all ten words, bring your newspaper Miss Taylor to receive an e-Praise point. We promise it isn’t impossible this time!

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

- |       |         |         |           |           |
|-------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Bunny | Baskets | Chicks  | Chocolate | Daffodils |
| Eggs  | Flowers | Holiday | Spring    | Sunshine  |



## 20 More Weird Facts

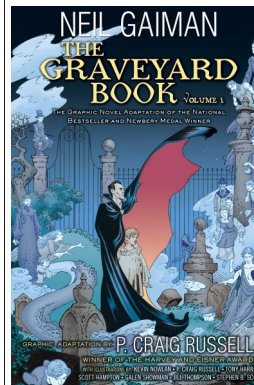
By Carys Garner, Year 8

1. 'Tartle' is an old Scottish word for the moment of panic when you're about to introduce someone and you realise you've forgotten their name.
2. 50% of Americans believe in at least one conspiracy theory.
3. 95% of people on Earth have at least one thing wrong with them.
4. According to at least two independent sets of research, man flu is real.
5. All the photos shared on Snapchat in one hour would take 10 years to view.
6. 72% of 18 to 25 year olds find it easier to express their feelings with emoji rather than words.
7. The average Briton is bored for six hours a week.
8. The Oompa-Loompas were originally called Whipple-Scrumplets.
9. People who drink black coffee are more likely to be psychopaths.
10. The beehive hairdo was invented to fit under a fez.
11. The Royal Mail has calculated that it would cost £11,602.25 to send a letter to Mars.
12. Every year, British ducks are fed 3.5 million loaves of bread.
13. The world's heaviest pumpkin weighed as much as a Ford Fiesta.
14. Americans eat 20% of their meals in cars.
15. Sonic the Hedgehog's full name is actually Ogilvie Maurice Hedgehog.
16. In 1994, people said "marvellous" 77 times as often as they do today.
17. Galeanthropy is the belief that you have become a cat.
18. In the past 50 years, humanity has mined enough rock to fill the Grand Canyon to the brim.
19. World Health Day and America's National Beer Day are both on 7th April.
20. Slugs have approximately 27,000 teeth.

## Books of the Month

### The Graveyard Book

Reviewed by Savanna Davies, Year 8



A toddler walked unknowingly out of the house straight to the graveyard, not knowing he was being followed... When the ghosts meet him, a ghost of someone freshly killed says, "PROTECT MY SON!" It is a great book, originally by Neil Gaiman and adapted by P. Craig Russel.

### Jekyll and Hyde

Reviewed by Emily Jackson, Year 7

*Jekyll and Hyde*, or to give its full name, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, is a thriller written by Robert Louis Stevenson, first published in 1886.

The plot of this story is that a scientist called Dr Henry Jekyll had tried to "make man equal", i.e. eliminate the bad in everyone. Having his experiment shut down by the Board of Governors of St. Jude's hospital, Jekyll decides that the only way to prove to them that it is possible is to perform the test on himself, thus bringing out a creation, who he later names Edward Hyde.

Hyde is outraged at the Board of Governors for dismissing Jekyll's work. He eventually picks them off one by one, Sir Danvers Carew being the first. Hyde later destroys Jekyll himself, his life and his relationship with his fiancée Lisa Carew. Simon Stride (Secretary to the Board of Governors) tries to stop Lisa from marrying Jekyll before it's too late. Jekyll also meets a beautiful woman called Lucy, but sadly she becomes Hyde's next victim.

John Utterson (Henry's closest friend) sees Jekyll deteriorate due to the constant struggle with Hyde and encourages him to finish the test before Hyde kills him. Eventually, this story ends in a tragedy with Utterson having to kill Jekyll to save all of London from Hyde.

Many people have changed the story to make it either more interesting or to have it fit to music. My personal favourite is the musical, as it tells you more of the story and focuses on Jekyll and his descent into madness. With the extremely talented Anthony Warlow singing in Jekyll and Hyde, it brings a new sense of life to the role.

# News, Politics and Opinion

## The Eve Appeal

By Caitie Swallow, Year 8

The Eve Appeal is a charity for research into gynaecological cancer, which, it is estimated, will kill 14,240 women this year. 55 women in the UK will be diagnosed with a gynaecological cancer today...

...and 21 will die.



### What is Gynaecological Cancer?

Gynaecological cancer is a term which is used to refer to the following five cancers that start in the women's reproductive system:

- Ovarian cancer - in one or both ovaries.
- Cervical cancer - of the neck of the womb.
- Vulval cancer - of the external female sex organs.
- Vaginal cancer - of the birth canal.
- Womb cancer - also known as endometrial cancer or uterine cancer.

These five cancers combined are the UK's third largest cancer killer for women and have a devastating effect on their families.

The Eve Appeal is determined to change this – with your help.

### Who are the Eve Appeal?

The Eve Appeal was launched in 2002 and is the UK's only national gynaecological cancer research charity. Their mission is to raise funds for research and to save lives from these diseases.

The Eve Appeal shares in a united vision with the Department of Women's Cancer at University College London, of a world where fewer women are diagnosed and significantly more women survive gynaecological cancers.

### Ongoing research

Working alongside the Department of Women's Cancer at University College London, our funding helps to advance research across all gynaecological cancers.

'PROMISE 2016' and 'FORCEE', our exciting lead projects, are being undertaken at major gynaecological cancer

centres in the UK, US and Europe, with the aim of finding better ways to diagnose earlier and prevent cancer in women.

Research teams are now analysing hundreds of thousands of blood samples, collected over the past decade, in two large scale population screening trials.

If you want to find out more or how to fundraise, go to [www.eveappeal.co.uk](http://www.eveappeal.co.uk)

## The Scottish Mental Health Crisis

By Emily Aston, Year 8

Mental health is becoming a growing problem in society nowadays, affecting one in ten children aged 5-16: that's around three people in every class. There are over 200 classified mental illnesses, with the most common ones being depression, anxiety and personality disorders, and they all affect a person's daily life. Counsellors and psychiatrists can help people overcome their problems; however, even though our country has a lot of help and support, Scotland's facilities to help young people with mental health issues are lacking, which causes an extreme problem for the children.

According to children's charities, the students are left in distress and at an extreme risk. Scotland is the only UK country with no national strategy for school-based counselling services and the Scottish children's services coalition says that urgent action is needed to improve support. In Scotland, a fifth of children are referred to the NHS for mental health counselling; however, with a lack of mental health workers and psychiatrists and long waiting times of up to 18 weeks, sufferers are left in the dark. A young girl, Erin, was a student whose mental health disorder was spiralling out of control. She tried to get help from the hospital but ended up waiting for five months and said she felt "let down". Thomas, another university student, didn't want to talk about his feelings and said he felt "unsafe".

The Scotland mental health crisis is clearly a huge problem and needs to be dealt with. Mental health minister Maureen Watt said, "We are beginning to see some improvement in some of the boards that we're already working with, but in some boards there is a long way to go." Research suggests that half of mental health disorders start before the age of 15 so it is vital that

these young people have the help and support they need and deserve.

## Unsolved Mysteries: Atlantis

By Molly Hammerton, Year 9

One of the most famous of the world's mysteries, the lost city of Atlantis, has sparked debate for centuries. Did it really exist?

Many historians believe the tale is of Egyptian origin, and started life in 9600 BCE, 'Beyond the Straits of Hercules'. This lost city is thought to be the cradle of all civilisation, the home to a great kingdom that was full of knowledge, until it perished in a flood as punishment for corruption.

But what do you believe? Do you believe in Atlantis or do you think that it never existed?

## King Henry VIII

By Luke Davis, Year 7



This remarkable king was once a Catholic. He was such a dedicated Catholic that he even wrote a whole book on why Martin Luther's idea about Protestants was wrong.

Then many years passed and times changed. He started to become a Protestant. He made his own church and called it the Church of England. This was a church like no other; instead of the Pope being head of the church, Henry owned it. This meant that he could do Protestant rituals, not Catholic, and he married six times.

He had children with three of his wives. The first one, Catherine of Aragon, gave him Mary so he divorced her. The second, Anne Boleyn, gave him Elizabeth, so he had her beheaded (Henry wanted a son to be his heir to his throne). The third, Jane Seymour, gave him Edward, but, shortly after giving birth, she died of natural causes. Then the cycle happened again, with Anne of Cleves being his fourth wife and Catherine Howard his fifth, but this time, no children were produced. His sixth wife, Catherine Parr, managed to survive him after he died.

## Clover's Column

By Poppy Muffett, Year 10

If you read the previous issue, you should know that I wrote about owning a bunny. My rabbit's name is Clover, and he is a Netherland Dwarf. He lives outside in a hutch, but I bring him inside so that he can spend time with me and my family. He has always been an inquisitive and kind rabbit, so I thought I would be nice for him to have a column in the newspaper.

Recently, when I have brought him inside, he has tried to venture off of the towel that I had laid out for him. This led to me chasing him, until he ran back to the towel. He tends to run towards my mum, as he likes her voice the most. Sadly, my mum is allergic to him, so he cannot stay near her, and he cannot stay in for too long.

Soon, I will be moving house, so Clover cannot come inside. Thankfully, we have bought him a shed. Hopefully, my dad is going to build the shelves and ramps for him, although my dad is not brilliant at DIY. My vision is for him to have lots of space to run around in, and for there to be lots of interesting things for him to do.

Clover will turn one in April, which is twenty-one in rabbit years! I have already decided that I will buy him some bunting for his shed, and that I'll invite some friends over to celebrate his birthday. Because he didn't have a birth certificate when I bought him, we did work out an approximate birthday - I guess some people (or rabbits, in this instance) have more birthdays than the queen!

If you would like to keep up with Clover's adventures, you can follow his Instagram which is @cloverthebunbun.

Image removed due to licensing restrictions

*To the right:*

*Clover poses for a photograph in the living room; find out more about this adorable bunny in the next issue of The Torch.*



# Media and Review:

## Curse of the Childish Critics: Why the Harry Potter fandom needs to give it a rest

By Ellie Eagleton, Year 13

Mention *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* to a devoted Potterhead and you'll either get a tsunami of praise or a tirade of hatred. I thoroughly enjoyed the script and, after being lucky enough to see the play in London, I'm full of nothing but praise for it. Quite aggressive, one-sided praise. Yes, it reads like middling fanfiction in parts, and yes, I do agree with the argument surrounding the lack of romance from Albus and Scorpius's deliberately obvious devotion to each other. But it's been nearly a year now, and the play and its cast are still unstoppable. So, if you didn't like it for whatever reason, stop complaining and do something about it.

The production had a rocky reception from fans. I don't know about anyone else, but I quite clearly knew that J.K. Rowling's fabled eighth story would be a West End play for a good while before the script was released, so it seemed inexplicable to me that there was an immediate backlash from those who were snivelling about Rowling having "promised us a new book, but given us a script". We did get a book. It just had a script between its covers. Another mountain made from a molehill was the casting of black actress Noma Dumezweni as the adult Hermione Granger. Neither Hermione's skin colour nor her ethnic background are ever specified in the books, and if you're genuinely offended by the fact that the brightest witch of her age is now portrayed as a black woman, maybe you're the one that's despicable, not Ms Rowling's casting team. Forgive me for perpetrating a stereotype here, but I'd say that most of Ms Dumezweni's critics haven't actually seen her performing, because her Hermione's just as clever and sassy as Emma Watson's was. If there's a question of characterisation in the play, I'd concentrate on Poppy Miller's slightly-too-dramatic portrayal of Ginny.

But, now we're over a year down the line, I'm getting pretty sick of all the continued negativity. Of course people are entitled to their opinions, and I'm not trying to force anyone to like something they don't enjoy, but

I'm at the point where I genuinely fear what I might find on the Cursed Child Tumblr tag when I'm searching for stuff to remind me how brilliant Scorpius Malfoy is. Still people seem to complain about the far-fetched storyline and state dramatically that they'll "never accept it as canon", as if they know any more literary terminology than "canon".

From the point of view of someone who wants to follow in J.K.'s footsteps, it actually saddens me that fans can turn so petulant, when it's past the point of being able to influence the creator. It's all very well being an outspoken keyboard warrior when your favourite universe produces something you don't like, but if you're so desperate to change things in the media, I have a much more productive solution: stop whingeing, pick up a pen or a laptop and write your own work. Seriously, come and have a go if you think you're hard enough; there's no reason why you shouldn't. That's what inspired me in part to start writing my own fantasy novel, with a conscious effort to include a racially and sexually diverse cast of characters that I don't see represented enough in the genre.

To sum up, I think actions generally speak louder than words (despite my written rant here), so instead of trying to convince the internet that the eighth Harry Potter story should be obliterated from fans' memories, I'd rather see creative individuals writing their own plays, and challenging everything they see wrong with their preferred genre of fiction. You never know, you might just set an example for your favourite writers' future works if your hard work pays off.

## A Street Cat Named Bob

By Emily Aston Y8

*A Street Cat Named Bob* is an international bestselling novel which tells the story of how James Bowen, the author, recovers from drug addiction and homelessness with the help of a wonderful stray cat he called Bob. The book was made into a film last year that recently came out on DVD so as a big fan of the book, I had to buy a copy and it did not disappoint.

Not only does Luke Treadaway play the role of James Bowen extremely well, but Bob the cat plays himself

# Films, Games and More



which adds a huge element of laughter to the film, with Bob's antics as described in the book being shown on screen. How long it took them to film that is beyond me!

However, the film is based on something serious, so it isn't all so funny. There are many emotional moments in the film, especially when James is visiting his father and struggling with his addiction, although they are acted out incredibly. Along with the humour and Bob's quirky moments, it makes for a great movie!

The only issue I would have with the film is that they have missed out parts of the book, added parts and changed bits of it as well, which happens a lot when books are adapted into films. This is slightly annoying, as one of the things they've added is a love story; however, it is still an amazing film and the added interaction with his father is upsetting but adds a lot more to the story.

Overall, a great book and film and I'd recommend to all!

## Mel and Sue turn down Nightly Show

By Ellie May Beaumont, Year 8

*The Nightly Show* is the new ITV comedy chat show, which has a different presenter every week for its eight-week run. Mel and Sue are a hilarious, witty and memorable duo of TV presenters. They have presented shows such as *The Great British Bake Off*, *Light Lunch* and many other extremely funny programmes. 2017 is said to be one of their busiest years so they have been forced to turn down the program.

"We were approached to take part in the series; however, due to our busy schedule, we were unable to make the dates work," the delighting duo said in a statement to the press. "We do wish the team all the best with the remainder of the series."

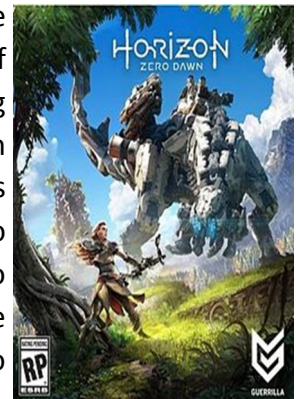
The announcement comes after the show initially struggled with ratings and received poor reviews from critics during its first week. The opening episode, hosted by David Walliams, was watched by 2.9 million viewers on Monday 27 February, but that had dropped to 1.2 million by the following Friday. However, John Bishop bossed viewing figures of the show - with an average of 1.4 million tuning in on Tuesday and 1.6 million the Wednesday of his week hosting the programme.

## HORIZON: ZERO DAWN

By Luis Walsh, Year 7

A couple of weeks ago, a pretty amazing game came out called *Horizon: Zero Dawn*. It is set in the near future, where humanity has mastered holographic and robotic technologies. However, something happens and the world becomes a wasteland. This causes machines to become dominant across the land.

The stunning graphics and the cunning gameplay will lift you off your feet with the interesting characters like Aloy (the main character). The only downside is that it is a PlayStation exclusive, so I had to wait for my cousin to complete it, then he would let me play it for 3 weeks so I had to complete it quickly.



## Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children Novel

By Molly Hammerton, Year 9

Almost all of us will have heard of the newly released film starring Asa Butterfield as the main character, but how many of us have read the novel? Despite the fact that the film was based on the book, it seems Burton didn't read it before producing the film as he removed key parts of it. However, this article is not a rant about the film; it's a review of the spectacular novel, which incorporates photography with an amazing story.

First of all, we are introduced to Jacob, a typical teenage boy who believes he is ordinary and thinks nothing interesting will ever happen to him. He couldn't be more wrong, when all he thinks is normal is tossed to the wind after his beloved grandfather is violently murdered in the woods under suspicious circumstances and he is thrown head first into the mystical world of Peculiars.

I would recommend this fabulous novel to anyone who enjoyed *Harry Potter* or is a fan of *X-Men* as this lives up to their legacy. I think that you will enjoy this fully and will agree when I say that it is a truly unforgettable story.

# Sports Round Up

## RBS Six Nations Rugby

By Alex Dalby, Year 7

The Six Nations Rugby tournament dates all the way back to 1871, when teams from England and Scotland played in the first ever Rugby Union International fixture. In 1879, the Calcutta Cup was created to praise the winner of the occasional matches played between the two countries. Other international countries also became interested in International Rugby Union. This led to the creation of the Home International Championship in 1883. England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland became the first ever teams to play in the International Rugby Tournament.

England and Scotland dominated the early three years of the tournament. This led to the two teams combining to win nine of the first ten championships. Interest increased throughout the years, leading to greater parity, with Wales and Ireland winning four of the last five championships contested at the end of the 19th century.

### England

England's national rugby team have won the competition a massive 28 times with an addition 10 shared wins, 13 times winning the Grand Slam and 25 times of winning the Triple Crown. As of the 20th June 2016, we have been ranked 2nd right behind New Zealand (the All Blacks).

### Wales

Wales' national team has won the championship 25 times outright. Their latest win was in the year of 2013, when they were at the top of the table with a clear space between them and England of 9 points.

### Ireland

The national team of Ireland has won 12 times outright and have shared the title 8 times. Ireland is also one of the teams that make up the British and Irish Lions. Ireland's highest ever ranking in the world has been second. They reached this in 2015 after an amazing run of wins in the Six Nations. In 2017, they stopped England from winning the Grand Slam again.

### France

The France national Rugby Union team have won the title 16 times and shared it a further 8 times. They have also completed nine Grand Slams.

### Italy

Since 2000, Italy have competed every year. They have never won the Six Nations championships but they have won the old Five Nations rugby many times.

### Scotland

Since the competition became the Six Nations, they have yet to win. When it was the Five Nations, however, they won it 14 times and shared it a further 8.

### Top Five Greatest Six Nations Moments

The top five greatest Six Nations moments have got to start in the year 2000.

5. Italy's perfect start – Italy vs Scotland, 2000.

Italy made their dream debut in 2000, defeating Scotland 34–20 in their first ever Six Nations game. However, there was one thing that blew our minds. For the first time ever, the Italian newspaper *Gazzetta dello Sport* was taken over by rugby. It was the first time ever that rugby had even been mentioned in the paper.

4. O'Gara's winning drop-goal – Wales vs Ireland, 2009.

The greatest moment of Irish, maybe even the whole of Six Nations rugby, was Ireland's Grand Slam winning drop goal. They had not won a Grand Slam since 1948, but they then made history in 2009 thanks to the right boot of Ronan O'Gara. A drop goal in the dying embers of the 78th minute sent Ireland all the way through. They overcame Wales 17–15.

3. Croke Park welcomes England – Ireland vs England, 2007.

This was one of the most spine-tingling moments in the history of all sport, from the tears of John Haye, to the respect of all of Croke Park when the English national anthem tore through the huge ground. Despite the political issues going on between England and Ireland, there was still a huge amount of respect for everyone.

2. Brian O'Driscoll announces himself to the world of rugby - France vs Ireland, 2000.

A memorable day once again for many reasons. Ireland secured their first win in France for a massive 28 years, while a certain 21-year-old Brian O'Driscoll set the game alight with a stunning hat-trick. This was the day that O'Driscoll truly announced himself to the world.

1. Martin Johnson takes on the whole of Ireland – Ireland vs England, 2003.

Martin Johnson, England captain, led his team out to the wrong side of the pitch for the anthems. They were not happy. President Mary McAleese ended up walking on to the pitch (getting her shoes extremely dirty) to sort it out. The mind games of England clearly seemed to be working as Ireland ended up losing the game and therefore let England win the Grand Slam that year.

## The Brilliance of Barcelona

By Daniel Nutley, Year 8

Image removed due to licensing restrictions

Barcelona vs PSG! What a game!

But if you didn't already know, Barcelona played Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League last 16, and it left many football fans speechless. It has to be one of the greatest ever Champions League ties and it wasn't even a final.

The game took place over two legs; one in Paris at the Parc des Princes stadium and the other at the Camp Nou.

In the first tie between these two European titans, PSG ripped Barcelona to shreds with the final score being 4-0 to the French Champions. Angel Di Maria had a fantastic game for the French side, scoring a brace, one of them a fantastic free kick. New signing Julian Draxler and striker Edison Cavani scored the other two. The night of the first leg coincided with the birthdays of two PSG men, Angel Di Maria and Edison Cavani—both players scored, making it a very happy birthday indeed.

After the first leg, many thought Barcelona were down and out of the game and that it would be impossible for them to come back; however, football surprised us once more.

Barcelona went into their home tie needing a five goal margin to comeback and progress to the next round of the Champions League.

The Catalan side started amazingly well with striker Luis Suárez scoring after just 3 minutes. However, it then took until the 40th minute for Barca to find their second, albeit through an own goal of Kurzawa.

Going it half time with a 2-0 lead, the Spanish champions still required another three goals, without conceding, to progress in one of the greatest ever comebacks. As ever, it wasn't quite as simple as that!

Five minutes after the half time break, Lionel Messi scored, which gave the fans and players a slice of hope.

It seemed, though, that the hope was snatched from them soon after, with when Edison Cavani scored for PSG, meaning the team in red and blue still required another 3 goals to progress; an impossible task in the last 30 minutes of the game, right?

It was boiling down to the business end of things when, in the 88th minute, Neymar scored a fantastic free kick to boost Barcelona's lead even further.

Then, not long after, poor refereeing saw a blatant dive from Luis Suárez win the Spanish side a penalty. Neymar coolly put it to bed and now just one goal was required from Barcelona.

The referee added a total of six minutes on for extra time, perfect for the home fans! One goal to win the match and prove doubters wrong...

And then, in the dying embers of the game, a looping cross from Neymar found Sergi Roberto in the centre of the box and was finished effortlessly to finish the unthinkable comeback.

It was a fantastic game of football and is another instance that proves anything can happen in the beautiful game! It will surely be remembered along with many of the greats.

However, the disappointed PSG fans have blamed the game on bad officiating from the officials; over a hundred thousand angry fans have signed a petition to have the game replayed.

## The Revival of the Black Death

By Jacob Linney, Year 7

Let's imagine that the Black Death came back. It will surely be more deadly after four hundred years since its last outbreak. To start off, it will be less detectable than it was so buboes need to be smaller. Instead of rats, how about it travels by fleas on birds? This would be a quicker way of spreading and no one would suspect their pet parrot to be the cause of a plague. And the only cure is the previous black death: they'll never see that one coming, will they? The best part about the cure is that there's almost none of it in the whole world. Well, that was my guide to a perfect plague.

# Sport and Music

## Claudio Ranieri Sacked



By Daniel Nutley, Year 8

Leicester City have shocked the world of football once more, this time for a less-than-positive reason. Less than one year after helping the relegation favourites to win the Premier League, Claudio Ranieri has been sacked.

The 2015/16 season was a testimony of domination for Leicester City football club, a club that in the season prior narrowly escaped relegation in what has been described as the great escape. They exceeded everyone's expectations to become champions of English football, winning the Premier League. And now in 2017, the manager behind this success has lost his job less than nine months later.

This decision follows a run of ill form for the Foxes. Down near the relegation zone of the Premier League, the only considered success of the season has been their form in the Champions League. Coincidentally, Claudio's last game in charge was in the Champions League against Sevilla FC in a 2-1 defeat.

The decision to sack Ranieri shows a lack of loyalty and disrespect for a man who will be long remembered as a club legend. This also shows the current state of football; it's all about winning and money. There is no respect in the game and it seems as though sometimes managers are misunderstood; they are only human, after all!

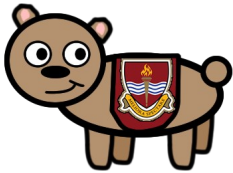

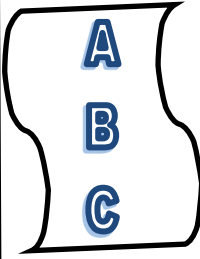
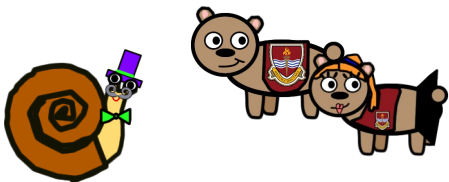
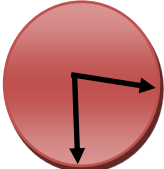
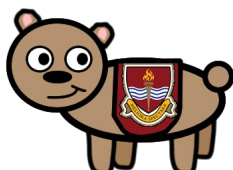
Image removed due to licensing restrictions

*Shock departure: Ranieri waves farewell to the team.*

Ranieri was interviewed the day after and was quoted as saying, "Yesterday, my dream died." He seemed angry, as would be expected, and followed by commenting that he hopes that they get relegated.

Whilst searching for a new manager, Leicester coach Craig Shakespeare has stepped in as caretaker manager. Whilst under the managerial of Shakespeare, they have gone on a comparatively good run, including a victory against Liverpool.

After that brilliant run of form, Craig Shakespeare has been appointed as manager until the end of the season. Since being appointed fully, Shakespeare has helped a famous comeback into the Champions League, beating Sevilla to progress to the quarter finals.

<b>WALLY THE WATH WOMBAT</b>		<i>Last time, Wally discovered there was a darker side to his long lost brother, as he used to bully Wisteria...</i>	
 <p>With Easter fast approaching, Wally was in a bit of a predicament.</p>	<p>Was he to stay at home and spend time with his Family, or go to Easter School? He felt guilty about missing out on family time.</p> 		<p>After his prelims, Wally was also worried he wouldn't get his predicted grades. The decision was made! He was going to Easter school!</p>
<p>Wally went first to English, then Geography, maths and French.</p> 	  <p>The classes were soon over and that meant Wally was not only prepared for his exams but Easter seemed to come quicker.</p>	<p>Image removed due to licensing restrictions</p> <p>Happy Easter from everybody at <i>The Torch!</i></p>	