

STAY SAFE AT HALLOWEEN

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By Bradley Luke, Year 7 and Ngai Wa Yuen, Year 8

It's almost Halloween time; ready for trick or treat? Did you know that the tradition comes from people wearing costumes to ward off ghosts? Pretty neat, huh?

But it's not all fun and games on Halloween. It's important to stay safe, especially if you are going trick or treating without parental supervision. Here are some tips to make sure ghosts don't trouble you, whether or not you are wearing a costume!

Make sure to:

- Never go into anyone's house!
- Look before you cross a road!
- Try to be in a group!
- Try not to stay out too long!
- Don't do anything stupid!

Have a great time at Halloween and remember to stay safe! Have fun!

Sudoku

Created by Ngai Wa Yuen, Year 8.

How it works:

Each column and row should have the numbers 1-9, with no repeats. Each 3x3 grid should also feature the numbers 1-9.

Will you be able to complete the puzzle?

Solve the puzzle and return to Miss Taylor for ePraise.

	2	5	6	4		8		
9	6		5			3	4	
8	4			7	9			1
3	8				7	1	5	
	7			2		6	3	8
5			8	3				
7	9	4		5		2	8	6
	3		7	9				5
2	5					7		

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am delighted to be able to advise you of another strong set of external examination results from last summer. We finished top in every measure across the Local Authority (LA) in our Year 13 results. 22% of A-levels were graded A*-A, 53% A*-B and 83% A*-C. Our A-level Average Points Score per entry was our highest ever. Our applied subjects enjoyed similar success with 85% graded D*-D and 99% D*-M. These are very impressive Year 13 results, which allowed the vast majority of students to access their chosen courses at universities across the country. We are very much looking forward to hearing how they are settling into university life when they return to school for the Year 13 Presentation Evening at the end of term.

At GCSE level, we were particularly pleased with the increased proportion of our students obtaining at least grade 5, the government's new 'strong' pass standard. In the major attainment measure of grade 5+ in English and Maths, we improved by 7%, to give a figure of 47% against an LA average of 38%, and finishing second in the LA. We were also second in the LA for grade 5+ in two or more Science subjects, again with 47% against an LA average of 38%. We have a very good track record of providing opportunities for students to go on to access sixth form, apprenticeships or college.

My heartfelt congratulations go to all the students and staff – a well-deserved reward for all the hard work that went in to achieving those results. However we are not complacent and we will be working very hard so that our students enjoy continued success. Across our school community, we continue to focus on raising academic standards and opportunities, remaining fully committed to our aim of ensuring that all of our students receive a high quality educational experience and can leave us able, active and qualified. The target date for academisation has been pushed back again by the DfE – this time to 1 December 2018 – however we are already working very closely with executive leaders from across Maltby Learning Trust, our sponsoring trust, to ensure continued success.

We currently have 313 students in Year 7, our highest ever figure starting with us in Year 7. The school's new extension is due to be completed during this academic year, which will then provide the additional capacity for



our target of 330 students in Year 7 in September 2019. In order to give as many parents as possible the opportunity to experience life at Wath Comprehensive School, we hosted a Year 6 Open Evening on 11 October and had almost 600 visitors to the school. This was then followed-up with the opportunity for parents to join us for a guided tour during the working day. The feedback has been very pleasing.

Once again our new students have settled in quickly, adjusting to life and routines. In order to gain the maximum benefit from the extensive opportunities available, we encourage as many students as possible to get involved in extra-curricular opportunities and, especially, try something they haven't done before. Year 7 seem to be really stepping up to this challenge. Year 7 parents have had the opportunity in this first half term to come into school, meet the Form Tutor and hear feedback as to how students have been settling in. We also welcomed a large number of new students, from other local secondary schools, into Year 12 and hope that they also embrace the opportunities on offer. It is always particularly pleasing when the attraction of the sixth form brings new students from across local authority boundaries, such as from Barnsley and Doncaster. In addition, I also offer our new staff a warm welcome and very best wishes for a successful and enjoyable career with us.

It is a particularly busy time for Year 11, given that their external exams begin shortly after the Easter holiday. Parents and students were invited to a Revision Festival on 4 October and the Y11 Students' & Parents' Consultation Evening with subject teachers is scheduled for 6 November. The Y11 Preliminary Exams then

commence on 26 November – these are vital internal preparatory exams for the later external ones. Students in Years 10 to 13 will have their first measures of academic progress formally recorded before the end of this half term.

As I write I am looking forward to the Performing Arts faculty hosting a Murder Mystery Evening in the final week of the half term, this year with a Halloween theme. I am also delighted to report about the very large number of our students from the school involved in the National Citizen Service programme last academic year – the highest number from any Rotherham secondary school. The programme of activities are a real opportunity for building independence, confidence and to work with others from different communities. I must also congratulate the team of Spanish students who recently won first prize in a completion for language students across South Yorkshire, hosted by Sheffield Hallam University.

Some important forthcoming dates:

- 26 October
INSET day: school closed to students
- 29 October
Half-term break begins
- 5 November
Second half term begins (for students and staff)
- 6 November
Y11 Student & Parent Consultation Evening with subject teachers
- 15 November
Y11 Presentation Evening (for last year's Year 11 students)
- 20 November
Y13 Student & Parent Consultation Evening with subject teachers.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Taylor
Headteacher

News in Brief

Development club

By Emily Rodgers, Year 7

Development club is a place where you can currently have the opportunity to create websites using HTML and CSS with three of the Y11 prefects. It is held in G28 every Monday, we are hoping to use different coding languages later on in the year.

Christmas Performances

Year 7 and 8 Drama club have been working hard all term and are preparing performances to share with each other in the hall just before Christmas.

Murder Mystery Evening

The Murder Mystery production is almost upon us. On the 24th October, our Year 13 Drama students will present a Halloween Homicide to a packed hall of staff students, families and friends. The evening is always great fun as the audience grapple with the clues given by the actors to find out who has committed the murder.

This year, the audience will be invited into the school hall which will be transformed into Mr Billie O Naire's mansion which he and his wife Millie have just bought, and rumour has it that it's haunted.

Filled with Halloween games, entertainment from KS5 dancers, lovely food and drink and of course the competitive nature of the teams to solve the murder, this night is always great fun.

New Sixth Evening

Year 11s are welcome to attend the New Sixth Evening on Thursday 25th October. It is a chance to start planning for life beyond GCSEs, to see what the school offers in terms of A Level and Vocational options. It will take place from 6.30pm until approximately 8.30pm.



Latest News and Updates from

Heggarty Maths

From the start of this term, our students have been working incredibly hard on Heggarty Maths. As a school, we have answered over 100,000 questions with 1,760 hours of work being completed since September. After the half term break, there will be a competition every two weeks to see who has completed the most questions in school, with lots of epraise points up for grabs!

Particular congratulations go to Joshua Edwards (Year 7), Tyler Wood-Chappell (Year 11) and Luke Charlwood (Year 11), who are the top 3 in school for the number of questions answered. Between the three students, they've answered over 2,500 questions!

Here are the top 10 performing classes in school:



Well done to Mrs. Casey's 7L5 class, who are our current leaders. However, Mr. Marcroft's 11L1 will be cranking up the pressure in the coming weeks!

Can you help to get your class on the leader board?

Calling All Wath Entrepreneurs!

This year, the Business faculty is running an exciting new course, OCR Nationals in Enterprise and Marketing. It's currently being studied by some Year 9s and Year 10s as a option course, and will be available to current Year 8 students as an option choice for next year. There are two Year 9 classes and one year 10 class currently, and it will hopefully grow as more people realise how valuable it is.

In order to raise its profile, the Business faculty have been searching the school for entrepreneurs who are either in school currently or have been to Wath. A full

display of all these students can be found outside of G15, but here are some of the most notable:

Name: Ashley Porter-Exley

Wath status: Former student

Description: Ashley showed off her amazing enterprising skills and went on to successfully win Series 3 of the BBC Young Apprentice, winning £25,000!

Key Successes: Ashleigh has taken up the role of National Sales Manager within the Staffordshire-based community interest company Youth Enterprise CIC.

Name: Kiaran and Brandon Crook

Wath status: Former students

Company name: The Sherlocks

Description: The Sherlocks is an up-and-coming indie band, consisting of four member, two of which are brothers and former Wath students. The Sherlock's area of enterprising is by forming a music band. The way they make money is from selling their music and performing gigs.

Key Successes: The Sherlocks have released an album and EPs so far and have embarked on there first tour around the UK this winter. Amazing!

Buskers on the Balcony

By Ngai Wa Yuen, Year 8



On 27th September, there was a show on the Year 7 balcony, which was very interesting and entertaining. The balcony was all about singing and showing your talent such as the Chinese song '全部都是你 (All About You)' and the song 'Read All About it'. We asked Mr. Morley about the performance on the balcony, who said: "I thought the performers were fantastic and very brave to show their talent in front of all of those students."

We also asked Mr Morley a

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Image removed due to licensing restrictions

Wath Comprehensive School

few more questions about future opportunities to be involved. He told us he will be holding buskers' events in any social area where the audience will behave appropriately and support the students on that were on the balcony. He also told us it is open to any person who can play an instrument, sing or showcase their musical talent in any other way. The show takes about 20-25 minutes which is usually about 5 performers.

If you are interested, auditions are in F4 every Tuesday lunch time with Mr. Morley. To be selected, students need to come ready to perform a piece of music of their choice. To know more information please ask as Mr. Morley in F4.

The School Library

By Thomas Armitage, Year 7



I am a Y7 school librarian, and I thought that joining the library would be a fantastic way of playing a valuable role in our school, and I found out that it definitely is. Since becoming a librarian, I have enjoyed helping the amazing staff here, and I hope to do so for many more years. Our library is a brilliant space, there isn't anything negative I could say about it, and if for some reason you haven't had the time to visit in a while, I would make sure that you do visit soon for we regularly get new book arrivals. Whether it's fiction or non-fiction, we have them all. So with the range we have, you're guaranteed to find the right book for you! To make finding books or putting them away easier, we have an easy to learn system: the books are labelled with the first three letters of the authors last name (e.g. Terry Pratchett would be PRA) then they are sent to the shelves alphabetically.

There are some rules to using the library...

- No eating or drinking
- Don't leave computers logged in and unattended
- Always return non-borrowed books back to the

shelves when finished with

- Remember to have books stamped if you want to take them out of the library
- Return books on time

Hope to see you in the library soon!

Y13 Politics and History Parliament Trip



On Friday the 12th of October, we were granted the amazing opportunity to visit the Supreme Court and the Houses of Parliament in London.

Although we began our journey to London at 7 o'clock and most of us were still incredibly tired, the thought of a McDonalds breakfast at the service station kept our spirits high.

Our first stop in London was the British Museum, which to many of us was a new sight to see. The contrast of the archaic exterior and the modern interior of the British Museum was beautiful. The British Museum is home to the Rosetta Stone, which is a lot bigger than most of us expected.

After lunch in Covent Garden, we made our way through Whitehall to the Supreme Court. As the Court was not in session, we were able to sit in the seats where justices such as Lady Hale have sat when making landmark decisions that affect all of our lives.

The afternoon was rounded off with a tour of the Palace of Westminster where we were lucky enough to see both the House of Lords and the House of Commons. We participated in a workshop on voting systems where we were able to form our own political parties.

We eventually arrived back at Wath at 9.30pm, tired but happy.

It was a great day, one that we will never forget.



Media and Review:

***Insatiable* has been renewed for a second season, and people aren't happy.**

By Phoebe Orwin, Year 8

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Earlier this year, Netflix released a new series called *Insatiable*. It immediately caused controversy because of its debatable topic choices. Firstly, the main character – Patty – has weight problems, until she has an 'encounter' with a homeless man and breaks her jaw. Her jaw is wired shut and, therefore, she loses over 70 pounds (probably more than this, since she also fasted for a while).

As well as fat shaming and poorly treated eating disorders, there was the case of Bob, a lawyer and pageant coach, who was wrongly accused of assaulting one of his clients. This was all handled in the completely wrong way, and people were – for obvious reasons – outraged when they heard there's going to be a second season.

Some people are saying that viewers' 'hate watching' has encouraged the second season. By this they mean that, since the word spread about how bad it was, people started to watch it to see if the rumours were true. Therefore, Netflix saw how many viewers it was getting and assumed it was because people really liked the show.

Others are complaining that *Insatiable* was brought back even though it only has a Rotten Tomato (an official film and TV series rating site) score of 11% and other series like *The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *Shadowhunters* and *Sense8* have been cancelled.

What do you think? Does *Insatiable* deserve another series?

New Little Mix single out

Georgia Tidy, Year 7

A new Little Mix single was released on Friday 12th October with a new song called 'Woman Like Me'. The new single features rapper, Nikki Minaj. Little Mix have released many singles and albums since they won X Factor. This is great news for Little Mix

fans as they have been waiting for a while now for Little Mix to release the new single. They announced the news on Instagram and Twitter, and their promo video already has millions of views. Little Mix have said a new album would be out in November.

Are you excited for the new album?

WOMAN LIKE ME
LITTLE MIX FT. NICKI MINAJ



New Harry Potter stamps released!

By Georgia Tidy, Year 7

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It's good news for Harry Potter fans around the UK. Royal Mail and Warner Bros have released 15 new Harry Potter stamps because of the new film coming out soon (*The Crimes of Grindelwald*). These stamps will feature many of the main characters in the films, such as Harry, Ron, Hermione, Ginny and Neville. There will also be five stamps which include the teachers. As a bit of extra magic, these stamps will also include secret details that can only be seen under ultraviolet light (an electromagnetic radiation that is the cause for sun burns and sun tans).

The Royal Mail said, "The Harry Potter movies continue to thrill and delight audiences of all ages. The goal with

Films, Games and More



our stamps is to capture the excitement of The Wizarding World and the heroism of the students at Hogwarts School at Witchcraft and Wizardry.”

The Royal Mail has been creating special stamps for over 50 years. Today there are estimated around 2.5 million stamp collectors around the UK and millions worldwide.

The Flash Season 5

By Emily Balaiss, Year 11

To understand what I'm about to tell you, you need to do something first. You need to believe in the impossible. Can you do that? Good.

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At the end of season 4, Barry and the gang defeated The Thinker (Clifford DeVoe) and saved all the meta-humans from being mind-controlled. But just as the gang started celebrating, a new shock entered their lives. Barry and Iris's daughter Nora, from the future, races into their house telling them that she has made a big mistake.

This could mean that she made the mistake of travelling so far back into the past, or did she make the mistake of helping Barry and changing the time line of Barry getting defeated to Barry achieving his goal of stopping DeVoe from making himself the smartest person alive?

DeVoe's goal was to wipe the minds on everyone on earth to make himself the most powerful person alive: wives wouldn't remember their husbands, parents wouldn't remember their children, and the whole world would just consist of everyone being retested and DeVoe being the ultimate power in the universe.

We don't yet know who the next villain will be or if it will be a speedster unlike season 4.

Book of the Month

Caraval – by Stephanie Garber

Reviewed by Emily Rodgers, Year 7



One of the books I have read recently was the amazing *Caraval*. The story follows Scarlett and her sister Tella, and describes the way they must deceive their abusive, almost psychopathic father, to prevent him from forcing Scarlett into a marriage

with the secretive 'Count'.

In order to do this, Scarlett must flee to a small island for the first time with the help of the mysterious sailor, Julian. He whisks her away to the enchanting land of her dreams, one she had only heard of in her grandmother's stories. This is the land of Caraval, which is run by the magical Legend.

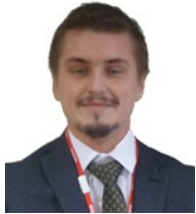
As soon as they arrive, they run into problems: Tella goes missing, their father is after them and the 'Count' is not the gentleman he made himself out to be. A spiral of love, hate, magic, plenty of near-death experiences, lies and exploitation make this a gripping novel. A definite read for Harry Potter fans, and if you want more (like myself), there is a sequel, called *Legendary*, and *Caraval* is possibly going to be made into a film.

If you have read a good book recently, and would like to feature in *The Torch* newspaper, then why not write a review and give it to Miss Taylor? If you are selected for publication, you will receive ePraise for your writing!

Meet the New Staff at

Curious to learn more about the new staff faces you see on the corridor? A number of journalists from Caitie Swallow, Lauren Williams, Emily Balaiss, Molly Hammerton, Ngai Wa Yuen, Grace Clowrey, Ellisia

Mr Brown



Mr Brown is a Science, Biology and Physics teacher. He is very enthusiastic and excited to teach here at Wath! He says this about our school: that it has a “great atmosphere and supportive and friendly staff, and students who are ready to learn and achieve.” He likes getting students excited about the plants. He would like to be a water bear (or ‘tardigrade’, to give its proper name) because they can survive anywhere, even in space.



Mr Dullaway

Mr. Dullaway, a new Maths teacher, told us he is enjoying being here at Wath a lot, especially getting to know students and working with his A Level class. But he is also missing his old school, as he also enjoyed working and teaching there too. He mainly decided to move to this school



because of the amazing Sixth Form, and also because his father-in-law came to this school. We finally asked him what animal he related to the most and why, to which he told us it was a hard call, but if he had to be anything, he would be the dog breed Alsatian, because he loves the breed and if they get stuck with someone they are with them forever.

Miss Dungworth

Miss Dungworth, a new PE teacher, was very excited about starting at Wath, but also a little apprehensive about teaching new students she didn't know.



She picked this school to move to because it's really good for sport and a really successful school with the exam results, and so far, she has really enjoyed getting to know all the students and running a dance club. She told us she probably relates most to a blue Staffordshire bull terrier, because they are kind and caring but know how to put up a fight if they need to.

Miss Harwood



When we asked Miss Harwood how well she knew the school so far, she told us that she was getting used to it and she had heard good things about it, and that was one of the reasons she came here. She said she is like a rabbit because they are over-enthusiastic; however, at home she said she most relates to a sloth. We also asked her what she has enjoyed doing so far at this school, and she replied that she loved teaching Science the most. The last question we asked was which year group she enjoyed she couldn't decide and told us that they all are her best students.

Mr Lacey

Mr. Lacey is a new addition to the Science department. He says he knows the school ‘pretty well’.



He wanted to come to this school because he has something to offer to try and improve the education of students at this school. He says that the animal that he most relates to is the legendary silver back gorilla. When asked what he has enjoyed so far, he says it is the challenge the students have given him.

Miss Majer



When we asked Miss Majer, a new English teacher, how well she knew the school she told us that she attended a school that used to compete against Wath

THE TORCH Journalists

This edition was produced by Bradley Luke, Ben Nutley, Isobelle Fenton, Georgia Tidy, Emily Rodgers, Hari Sukumar, Anna Gray, Ngai Wa Yuen, Grace Clowrey, Ellisia Bowman, Phoebe Orwin, Lucille Lowery, Jacob Linney, Dan Nutley, Olivia Storey, Caitie Swallow, Charlotte Ting, Elizabeth Gray, Lauren Williams, Emily Balaiss, Molly Hammerton, Joe Shackley and Miss Taylor. Thanks also to Thomas Armitage, Mr Bishop and Miss Perry. 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.

Wath Comprehensive School

***The Torch* (Hari Sukumar, Jacob Linney, Bradley Luke, Georgia Tidy, Emily Rodgers, Isobelle Fenton, Bowman, Ben Nutley, Dan Nutley, Elizabeth Gray and Anna Gray) have found out all about them!**

Comprehensive, so she knew we were competitive. Also, she said that after walking around for a while she could find her way around easily enough. She explained that the reason she came to this school was that it was very supportive and offered a lot of opportunities to get involved with activities. So far, she has enjoyed getting to know people and teaching a book called *Of Mice And Men* to her Year 9 students. We found out that the animal she was most like is a zebra because they enjoy hot weather like her, and they also are like horses, which she owns herself.

Mr Marriott

Mr Marriott already knows the school very well as he went to Wath as a student and decided to come back as a teacher as he really loves the school, and he needed to come back to the area too. He also teaches Maths and he really likes being able to do so here at Wath. He says he relates to a dolphin as they are friendly and intelligent!



Miss Pinquie

Miss Pinquie (a new MFL teacher) told us she is very happy to be part of the school, teaching French and Spanish, and very happy to be part of the magnificent MFL department. She chose to come to Wath because of what she already knew about it being an outstanding school, and she also



came to work here to be nearer to family as well. She wasn't sure what animal she most related to but said that if she had to choose one, it would have to be a cat because they are independent, they love to sleep (nine hours isn't enough for her!) and they are great to pet as they have such soft fur.

Miss Raithatha

Miss Raithatha, a new History teacher, told us she feels really happy to be starting here. She told us it's very different from her old school, and very different from what she expected, but that she really does like it and couldn't be happier.



We then asked her why she chose Wath Comp in particular and she told us her friend came to work here and told her how great it was. She got jealous and decided to try it and she found she loves it! We asked her what she has enjoyed most about Wath. Apart from her lovely classes, she said, she has enjoyed teaching Year 10 about the Vietnam War. Finally, she told us she really likes elephants, because they are really calm and generally really nice.

Miss Stocks

Ms Stocks said she felt extremely excited about starting at Wath, as well as saying that she chose Wath over various other schools because she thought the students were lovely. She also says the staff are very



supportive and kind. She teaches Science, and specifically Biology here, and has done since last Easter (however she started mid-way the year so missed out on an interview last year); she says she likes that in Biology you get to learn about the human body. The thing she has enjoyed about working here the most so far has been going to Yorkshire Wildlife Park earlier last year.

Next, we asked her a series of random questions, firstly what animal she would be, to which she replied she would be an elephant because she never forgets. Her favourite book is *Discovery of Witches*, and her favourite book is *One Day*, and finally, if she could have one superpower, she said it would be mind-reading.

Mr Woodward

Wath Comp's latest addition to the Geography team is called Mr Woodward. He said that he was excited to start here at Wath, and was looking forward to meeting new people, staff and students. After doing his teacher training at Wath one year ago, he enjoyed it so much that he decided to apply for a job here! The best part of the job for Mr Woodward was working with some great students and hearing their stories as well as telling his own. A true geographer by nature, the animal he relates to most is a bird, due to the fact that he enjoys travelling and seeing the world, just like a bird!



Opinion and Comments

Fattest bear competition

Georgia Tidy, Year 7

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In Alaska, they have been running an annual fattest bear competition. It is held in Alaska's Katmai national park and preserve in the US. It is held for an important reason. It's used to educate the public, but, for the bears, gaining weight at this time is about staying alive.

In October, the bears will start their hibernation (a long sleep throughout the wintry months). The added fat they have been gaining since July will certainly help them to stay alive. In the winter, the temperatures can drop to approximately -45°C so the shaggy hair will help.

Once a year on fat bear week, photos of the bears are posted on social media. The bears with the most likes, progress to the second day's round. After this year's competition, there is a new winner and her name is

Beadnose. She is a shaggy brown bear who has been eating salmon, berries, vegetation and other animals to prepare for winter.

Who will be next year's winner?

It's An Amazing Month For...

By Caitie Swallow, Year 10

A lucky pup

Firefighters rushed to the rescue after a small dog got lost in a rabbit warren for four hours in Scotland. The dog is called Bear, a cross between a Chihuahua and a Yorkshire Terrier, and was saved by crews using specialist equipment to detect Bear's heartbeat underground.

A young goalie

Letting in 11 goals in your first match as a goalkeeper isn't the best result, but after Harrison Ogle's dad shared a video of some of his saves online, famous football players sent messages of support. Ex-England goalkeeper David Seaman said, "I let in 12 goals in my first ever game for my school side." Keep working at it, Harrison, and you'll definitely improve!

An "extinct" bird

One of the world's rarest birds, thought to have died

Autumn Word Search

Made by Ellisia Bowman, Year 8

Solve the word search and return to Miss Taylor for a merit!

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| Acorn | Orange |
| Chilly | Pumpkin |
| Cosy | Red |
| Flannel | Scarecrow |
| Harvest | Spooky |
| October | Yellow |

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



out in 2016, has been rediscovered. The Bahama nuthatch can only be found in a small area of pine forest on Grand Bahama Island and it was thought they'd become extinct after a major hurricane in 2016. However, two students have now caught the species on camera as part of an expedition. This could be the start of an exciting conservation project to rebuild the population.

Woolly Mammoth Re-birth!

Georgia Tidy, Year 7

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There are plans to bring Woolly Mammoths back from extinction.

Scientists in Russia are working towards bringing the Woolly Mammoths back from extinction. This might sound a bit *Jurassic Park* but it's a serious project. The Centre will be in Yakutia, which is officially called the Sakha Republic. It's a very large area with almost half of it lying within the Arctic Circle. The freezing temperatures there mean that some ancient animals have been pretty well preserved in permafrost (a thick subsurface layer of soil that is below freezing point). This whole research will involve studying whole cells of the preserved animals such as Mammoths to see if it's possible to clone them.

It's not clear why the animals died around 10,000 years ago, but it might've been changes in the climate. Researchers hope to bring the animals back to life to learn much more about their lives, breeding habits and ways of interacting.

What do you think? Is it right to use science to bring back species that have been made extinct?

Are there any other extinct animals you would like to meet?

Doggy lookalikes!

By Grace Clowery, Year 8

Many people get dogs who suit their personalities, but these people take it to the next level!

These pictures of a range of dogs (poodles, afghan hounds...) and their owners from photographer Gerrard Gethings are mind-blowing – and very funny!

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News, Politics and Current Affairs:

A Tear In Technology

By Ben Nutley, Year 7

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As technology for space advances, so do the flaws that come with it; scientists working for NASA discovered a hole in the ISS, the International Space Station, on Wednesday 5th September. At first, they thought it was a simple micrometeorite, a small chunk of rock, like a meteorite, but much smaller, that had just hit the side of the plating, but after further investigation, it was much deeper than that...

The Soyuz is a Russian transport ship that ferries supplies and sometimes astronauts to the ISS. There is almost always a Soyuz module docked on the ISS, ready for launch at any time. However, recently the Soyuz module could not be launched, as scientists at NASA discovered a hole in the side of the transport module. First thinking it was just a meteorite, astronauts, directed by the NASA scientists, investigated the hole. However, when they found said hole, they found strange markings around it. These markings looked like drill marks.

At first, sabotage seemed like a rare thing to happen on the ISS, but now it looks like that might be an option. However, another likely cause would be a production error. When the ship was at Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, it was tested before launch. A theory is that during testing, a worker accidentally (or maybe not, who knows!) drilled the hole, then hastily covered it up. It seems as if the sealant the culprit used, dried up and dropped off when the Soyuz docked with the ISS. The Russians agree that this could've been sabotage but they were also the source of the production error theory.

This incident is still being investigated for culprits, as we still don't know who drilled this. Investigations are being held by the police and NASA to find out a true reason why this mysterious hole appeared on the ISS...

Around the World

By Caitie Swallow, Year 10

Dublin, Ireland

Pope Francis has spent two days visiting Ireland, 39 years since the last visit by a Pope. The head of the Catholic Church celebrated mass with several hundred thousand people in Dublin's Phoenix Park during his trip.

Chavín de Huántar, Peru

Robots have uncovered three hidden tunnels in a 3,000-year-old temple at the Chavín de Huántar archaeological site. The robots found ancient objects and a skeleton of a person that showed signs of being killed in a religious ceremony. The small, camera-carrying robots were used because they could reach places that are too difficult for humans to access.

Brussels, Belgium

This Is Not A Street (*Ceci n'est pas une rue*) has been chosen as a street name in the Belgium capital of Brussels. The name refers to a painting by one of Belgium's most famous artists, René Magritte (1898-1967), who painted a picture of a pipe and wrote, '*Ceci n'est pas une pipe*' ('this is not a pipe') underneath it. Magritte was part of the Surrealism movement. The logic behind the artwork is simple: even though it is a drawing of a pipe, the drawing isn't the thing itself, so it is not a pipe. From its artistic origin, the concept rapidly gained popularity. It was used by John Green in his book *The Fault In Our Stars*, and the phrase is also used in the film version.

Baby Squirrel, Germany

A man in Germany has been rescued by police after a baby squirrel "harassed" and chased him. The man had called the police saying he was unable to shake off the tiny rodent; which was running down the street after him. Police officers attended the scene in the city of

News From World (and Beyond)

Karlsruhe, where they found the exhausted squirrel fast asleep. They nicknamed the overly friendly baby creature Karl-Friedrich and took him to rest at an animal rescue center.

Four Kids Tragically Killed in Train Accident

Charlotte Ting, Year 10

Four kids, aged from four to eleven, were killed when a train slammed into an electric cargo bike in the Netherlands. Two others, a minder riding the bike and a fifth child, were seriously injured in the crash, which took place in Oss, an eastern Dutch city, 100km southeast of Amsterdam.

Cargo bikes, which have a large wooden box mounted on the frame in front of the rider, were formerly used for transporting goods but are now popular amongst Dutch parents for carrying young children.

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People have spoken to the police that the accident occurred at a rail crossing close to the town's railway station, which has white and red barriers and warning lights to keep pedestrians off the tracks.

Police have said that the electric cargo belonged to a children's day-care centre and was taking children to school when the accident happened. There were many witnesses, including other school-age children, police added.

"We have informed the families involved of this terrible news," police said in a statement. "We are investigating how this could have happened."

Two air ambulances landed at the scene of the accident and the two critically injured were taken to a local hospital. The Dutch Safety Board are looking into the cause of the accident.

"This is a very dark day, terrible for the next of kin and those involved," said ProRail CEO Pier Eringa. "There are no words to describe this."

Food for Thought

The Mars Bar Toastie

By Georgia Tidy, Year 7

If you've heard of cheese toasties, that's nothing. New out is a Mars Bar toastie!

Toastie fanatic Barry Chui is about to open a restaurant that is entirely dedicated to some classic snacks. There will be a range of odd fillings for toasties. These include Super Noodles, Japanese Katsu chicken curry, Caramac and Mars bars. Barry said, "At the end of the day, you can put anything on a toastie!"

What do you think? Can you really put anything on a toastie?

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Image removed due to licensing restrictions

Suspicious fillings: spaghetti (to the left) and Mars Bar (to the right).

Domino's forced to end free pizza campaign

Grace Clowrey, Year 8

Domino's Russia has been forced to stop a campaign which gave free pizza to anyone with a tattoo of the Domino's logo.



The company promised any customers with a tattoo of their logo 100 years of free pizza. The "Domino's Forever" campaign should have lasted two months, from August 31st to October 31st; however, there were so many participants that they had to limit it to the first 350 people.

One couple, who claimed to be in the first ten people to win, have shown off the certificates they received. The pair were invited to Domino's office and given 100 codes to use throughout the year.

What do you think? Would you really want to tattoo yourself for free food?

UK News Updates

Sadiq Khan flies over London

By Caitie Swallow, Year 10

After the uproar because of the baby Donald Trump balloon that was allowed to fly, fundraisers gathered together to crowdfund a balloon that depicts the Mayor of London in a yellow bikini.

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Yanny Bruere set up the crowdfund page to see if free speech is for all. He raised £58,000 online to make the balloon as part of his campaign "Make London Safe Again." He started it as he was "irritated that Khan was willing to mock a great ally like the US President - particularly at such an important time as Brexit. We thought it would be ironic and humorous if the situation was reversed and Khan had to submit himself to the same mockery in the name of free speech. Khan should be focusing on soaring crime levels in London, not point-scoring with a great ally."

The blimp was flown in Westminster and some people wore t-shirts with the words: "Stop the Khanage" and "Make London Safe Again." There were clear shouts for the balloon to go higher and there was quite a lot of shouts for Sadiq Khan "to go". One spectator, Martin Daubney, 48, from South East London, said: "I think it's very funny, it deliberately subverts the beach body ready adverts that Sadiq was so keen to ban."

Yanny, the person who thought of the balloon, has been called far-right and a Nazi. He said, "None of that is true." He also added: "But it's just funny that the people who organised the Trump one were kind of widely praised and heralded for what they were doing. And I've done exactly the same thing, which is fly a political figure in the air but suddenly I'm 'far-right' for doing it."

Our country behind the scenes (The RAF)

Hari Sukumar, Year 8

The RAF (the Royal Air Force) is a very important thing to our country. If we didn't have this great group of people, we would never have had a chance against Germany and the other countries that we fought long and hard against. You may not think that planes with guns are even worth the money, but who would stop the bombs if they weren't there to defend us?

The RAF was founded in the year 1918 (the year World War One ended) and it was formed to protect our country in the future, a way of minimising damage should Britain ever find itself in another war as terrible as the Great War.



The Royal Air Force did exactly what it had set out for by winning the Second World War for us in the terrifying six years of war between 1939 and 1945. They have been alert for 100 years (a full century) and will carry on throughout our lives as well.

These people who are risking their lives 24/7 are also always looking for upgrades to improve the look of the memorials for those who have fallen in service to

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our country. If you would like to donate to help remember those fallen, follow this link to find out how: <http://victoriacrosstrust.org/ways-to-donate/care-for-a-vc-grave/>.

More Sport Updates

Serena Williams' explosive behaviour at the US open final as up-and-coming player Naomi Osaka secures her very first grand-slam title

By Lauren Williams, Year 10

During the New York US Open tennis final on September 8th, where Naomi Osaka claimed her first grand-slam victory, an explosive exchange between 23 time grand slam winner Serena Williams and tennis umpire Carlos Ramos took place. Some say Serena was 'out of line', which is perhaps fitting as she smashed her tennis racket as well as calling the umpire several names, such as a 'thief', 'sexist' and 'liar'.

Things became heated early in the game, when her coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, gestured to her after she won the first game of the second set. The umpire pulled her up for receiving coaching advice, to which the fired-up tennis star responded, "I don't cheat to win, I'd rather lose. I'm just letting you know." Her coach couldn't understand why she would be pulled up for this, either, as he claimed that Osaka's coach was doing exactly the same thing for her. Things became even more toxic when, in a burst of passion after the completion of the fifth game of the second set, Williams smashed her tennis racket. Umpire Ramos awarded a penalty point to Osaka, and it was at this point that Williams lashed out with her various insults. This then received a verbal abuse penalty.

However, there is the other side of the story; some of Serena Williams' fans say that Serena's accusation of Ramos being a sexist could have some truth to it. Serena believed that if she had been a male tennis player, penalty points would never have been given to Osaka and perhaps the outcome would've been different. Although, in actual fact, what happened was that Serena was docked a game and fined \$17,000.

Naomi Osaka says she is not fazed by this outburst on Serena's part, despite the fact that some tears were shed as she stood up on the podium. Serena, however, lent her some words of wisdom, as she assured her that the crowds were not booing at Osaka but perhaps her.

Overall, Serena seemed extremely hurt by Ramos' decisions throughout the match, yet this did not stop her from lending her rival a helping hand in the form of

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some reassuring words.

Many were shocked by Serena's performance, but is she right? How many male tennis players have we seen smash countless rackets and still get off scot free? Would the scenario have played out differently if she was a male tennis player? You decide. But it is clear from interviews after the match that neither parties were affected by these actions, with the umpire saying he's fine, and Osaka saying the vents did not overshadow her great victory. Serena, on the other hand, is likely still upset over the whole exchange. But who was out of line?

Sport Update

Alastair's Accomplishments

By Daniel Nutley, Year 10

As of 3rd September 2018, England's leading run scorer, Alastair Cook, has walked away from international cricket saying, "There is nothing left in the tank." The former three lions' skipper has had an amazing career with 161 test matches under his belt, and this article will look through his remarkable career and all his many achievements.

First, I need to explain what test cricket is; it is a 5-day international cricket match between two nations. It is the longest form of cricket and is played at the highest level of cricket.

Since making his England debut 12 years ago, aged just 21, he has become the most prolific batter ever for England and holds many records, including the record for being the youngest Englishman to score 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000 and 6,000 test runs, as well as also being the youngest player of any nationality to score 6,000, 7,000, 8,000, 9,000, 10,000, 11,000 and 12,000 test runs.

Over the decade and a bit that Cook played internationally, he became one of the first names on the team sheet consistently through all the years. In total, he made 12,254 runs for England in test cricket.

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These include 32 centuries (100 runs in a test cricket match) as well as 56 half centuries.

Speaking of centuries, he has the most test centuries for England. He is also the most capped England cricketer in test matches and has played the most test matches for England as captain.

In his last ever test match for England, in true Alastair Cook style, he scored a surprisingly high 147 runs over two innings as his runs started to slow over his last few years.

Overall, as you can see from the outstanding records and achievements that Alistair Cook holds, he has been a key piece of the England cricket puzzle for many years and will be sincerely missed by fans and teammates alike.

