



IS EASTER REALLY JUST AN EXCUSE TO EAT CHOCOLATE?

By Mya Taylor, Year 9

Easter: the time where we receive chocolate eggs and get gifts. Is this really what Easter is for?

Many people these days give and receive chocolate Easter eggs and presents at Easter time but is this really why Easter began?

We are meant to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus after he had been killed on the cross for being the Son of God but research on the website familylife.com shows that many children have not got any idea of why Easter is celebrated: some say that it's when you tell a big bunny what you want in an Easter basket; others say you decorate a tree with eggs and get chocolate and gifts underneath it. But the closest one to the true meaning of Easter was: Jesus died and after some days the stone rolled away from the grave and Jesus was alive again then if he saw his shadow there would be six more weeks of winter.

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On the other hand, it is said that children do learn about it at school and it may just be that the children create stories in their imaginations. Confusing the celebration of Christmas and Easter as they are both celebrating Jesus.

Others argue that the eggs are just an excuse for shops to make lots of money and dentists to have a lot of work by pulling out rotten teeth. I myself asked my younger sibling what she knew about Easter and she knew what Easter was for but not why we have eggs. We have Easter eggs to celebrate new life as it is the time animals are born and Jesus rose again.

Don't get me wrong I love Easter but I believe that sometimes the amount of chocolate we receive is a bit over the top. I also think it is unfair on people who cannot eat chocolate for dietary needs as there isn't anything else available for them to eat. Overall, Easter is a season for new life and remembering that Jesus died and rose again. But it's also a season for eating lots of chocolate!

Easter Challenge

Join the Easter hunt with THE TORCH this month!

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

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

Then bring your copy to Miss Taylor to win a chocolatey surprise!

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Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

As Easter is almost upon us, we can reflect upon another very busy and successful term.

At the Governors meeting last week, I presented my termly report which included many contributions from subject departments and pastoral staff detailing the wide variety of activities and events undertaken this term. Reading these reports reinforces just how many exciting opportunities are available for our students who benefit greatly from them.

Amongst the many events this year, we have had residential visits to Les Deux Alpes, France (skiing), Bochum, Germany (Comenius project), London (Travel and Tourism), Barcelona and Seville, Spain (Modern Languages). In addition, we have had many visits by several departments to venues as diverse as New York, (History), Manchester University (PE and Psychology), Sheffield University (Science), JCB Rocester (Business Studies) and Alton Towers (Science week), The Harry Potter Studios (English) and theatre visits to see *4.48 Psychosis* at Sheffield Crucible. In addition, last week, we enjoyed three events of our own, Rock Night, which was a fantastic showcase for the musical talents of a number of our students who are in bands, and Divas dance

Y11 Revision Conference

41 Y11 students attended a revision conference in Manchester on Thursday 12th March 2015 to support their revision of GCSE Additional Science. Students attended a range of sessions that targeted key areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. A big well done to all students, who's behaviour was outstanding throughout the day.



Y11 revision for ALL GCSE students begins on 18th March and will run each week until the Science summer exams. Time tables can be found advertised throughout the Science faculty and within letters posted home to all students.

performance by Y12 students and the Y12 Drama Showcase.

Extra-curricular sport continues to be a major strength of our school with many fixtures played every week in a variety of sports across all age groups. In the last two weeks alone, we have participated in the annual Hall Cross 10-a-side rugby (see the back page for more details), the Rotherham School's finals day was held at Wickersley School and two of our football teams (Y9 and 1st XI) and five of our netball teams qualified for this (Y7, Y8, 10, Y11 and VIth Form). Wath had the most teams present at the finals day across the two sports. There were some really hard fought close games and I am pleased to report that both the Y9 and 1st X1 football teams and the Y7 netball team won.

The 1st X1 football team had beaten Thomas Rotherham College on penalties in the Rotherham final and faced the same opposition three days later in the South Yorkshire final. The boys showed great character in coming back from being one nil down to be level at half time and an exciting second half which we dominated scored the winning goal with three minutes to go. Thank you to all the many staff and parents who came along to support at these matches.

Finally, I would like to thank everybody who contributed in any way to the fundraising efforts for Sport Relief a couple of weeks ago. The House Comic Relief bake off competition was hugely successful. Participating in the cake sampling was a great pleasure! The exact amount raised has still to be confirmed.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Ward
Headteacher



News in Brief

Piano Recital

By Eve Spurr, Year 7

On the 26th of February 2015, the music department produced a spectacular performance of budding, young musicians. Throughout the night many people performed- aged from primary school to sixth form- and all succeeded proudly in performing their pieces. The event was done to raise money for some new pianos as the old ones are sticky and broken. Now our school is well on the way to buying some new ones.

Kilnhurst Church Concert

By Noah Savage, Year 7

On Monday the 9th of March, Kilnhurst Church held a concert for soloists from Wath Comprehensive School to raise money for both Kilnhurst Church and the Teenage cancer trust. There was a large variety of performances, from some of the Year 8s first solo performances, to an elite group of Year 13s performing their final, tremendous pieces. Overall, it was a great night out to see some great performances for a good cause.

Drama Primary School Tour

Last week, Year 10 Drama students embarked on the Primary School Tour. Our students had created a number of Theatre in Education pieces that were designed to give the primary school students a message.

The pieces of Drama were based on internet safety, bullying, how to cope with the move to secondary school and about how working hard can pay off.

We performed to Wath C of E, West Melton and Wath Central primary schools and the reception from all of the audiences were great with students being able to answer all of the questions that they were asked about the performances.

The primary schools tour happens every year and it is always fantastic to see Wath students having the opportunity to find out what it is like to work as a real touring theatre company. I am pleased to report that the outcome was the same as always, our students excelled and presented some excellent work.

World Book Day

By Aaron Duce, Year 7

World Book Day was on the 5th of March, so I decided to find out more about what the school did to participate...



Various members of the English department, dressed up as heroes and (mainly, of course) villains.

Two Year 7 pupils from every English class were off timetable for the day, and came dressed as a character of their choice from a book. All day, they did activities in the library related to books, and by the sounds of it, they really enjoyed it! First of all, they completed a profile / description of the character they came dressed as. The next activity, Imogen Rooney excelled in, they decorated biscuits to make them relate to World Book Day (ish). After the biscuits, they went on a "treasure hunt" quiz; they were searching for five golden tickets to win prizes. In the afternoon, they sat down to watch a showing of a Harry Potter film. Some people were so enthusiastic about the film, that they made their own scripts! At the end, they finished off with a presentation ceremony, with awards for Best Dressed, Best Biscuit and Best Script.



All the costumes were great, but Miss Campion won the prize for the best one ... Look at her terrifying eye!

The teachers in the English department all dressed up, and lessons had WBD related tasks and activities, making it one crazy day! Miss Taylor gave quite a few kids a scare but the winner of the dress up competition was Miss Campion, who came as Jekyll and Hyde.

From Beyond the School Gates:

By Charles Lord and Luke Stanley,
Year 12



In the distance: The Statue of Liberty.

Between the 8th and 14th of February, the History department took a group of forty-five Year 11-13 pupil across the Atlantic Ocean to the great United States of America. The trip took in all the key sights from American history in both New York and Washington and was a great showcase of different culture that thoroughly enriched all participants.

The packed coach left at 7am from school and full of excitement, we stopped at a McDonald's along the way before arriving at Heathrow. Then, following all the usual security checks, we were on the plane at 1 o'clock and in the USA at 17:30 local time. On arrival, we were greeted by Gordon, our New York tour guide; a short man with a long silver mane and a wealth of knowledge on the big apple. Exhausted from the journey but full of intrigue about what the coming days would offer, a mammoth pizza order was made before everyone settled down and prepared for the day ahead; our first in the skyscraper capital of the USA.

The cover of darkness presented little insight into the vast scale of the city and morning opened everyone's eyes to just how big everything in New York was. Short on time, we flew around the city – lead by Gordon – covering Midtown Manhattan, the Empire State Building and finally finishing the evening in Times Square.

With snow on the ground and a chill in the air, our first day was magical. The city exceeded all expectations and the view from atop the Empire State Building was excellent, offering a panoramic

glance around not just the city but the surrounding state and beyond.

Our second day had a clear focus on American History, following on from Day 1's focused sightseeing. Visits to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty and the Tenement Museum were clearly aimed at expanding our knowledge of immigration in the early 20th century and this part of the trip really enhanced the AS-level experience, providing real life historical examples. Being able to visit the location immigrants were first met with when entering the United States and coming face-to-face with their living conditions encapsulated dynamic learning as we could literally walk in the footsteps of the people who made New York City the thriving hub it remains to this day.

Next came the 9/11 Memorial, a harrowing experience which acted as a poignant reminder of the event that shook the world and united Americans against the threat of terrorism. The monument itself is two fountains flowing into each other on the location of one of the towers and the perimeter features the names of the deceased; however, it doesn't come across as over the top and instead remains an elegant and classy touch.

Our second day in New York was then finished with a trip to Bloomingdale's - the iconic department store. Here, everyone got their shopping fix and by all accounts, the many cafes were lovely as well.



Wrapped up warmly in the cold February air.

Morning 3, our final awakening in the big apple, was well and truly a last hurrah- suitcases and bags ended up everywhere and the daunting prospect of a coach

Wath Students' Stateside Sojourn

journey to Washington was at the back of everyone's minds. Instead, a feeling of gratitude was evident; as a group, we had just spent two full days in arguably the greatest city on Earth. We'd seen the best the city had to offer and bonded closer over shared memories of our time there. New York changed us all, opening our eyes to the world beyond Wath Comprehensive School and for this reason the journey to Washington wasn't as bad as it could've been as Washington only presented more opportunity and the eagerness to discover another new city carried us through that journey, as did the sing-along.



In the distance: The Washington Monument.

The Washington D.C. segment of our America trip began in the town of Gettysburg, sight of the famous Civil War battle in 1863. The tour itself was very remarkable, with our guide Truman enlightening us with intriguing information about politicians lying, statues facing the enemy line and even a titbit of information about the TV show *Pawn Stars*. We all left Gettysburg rife with new knowledge, with one of us now knowing that they needed a new pair of shoes.

Our 'digs' in Washington – the Harrington Hotel – were an improvement on those in New York, with the access to a bath and shower in our own rooms a big relief to most. We were treated to quiz on the night of our arrival, which was exceptionally fun despite my team only finishing second.

Our only full day in Washington was a markedly emotional one. We began by visiting Arlington Cemetery, one of the largest military cemeteries in the country whilst also housing former Presidents

William Howard Taft and J.F.K, whose grave is home to the eternal flame, a very moving sight to see. We also visited the Washington Monument and the magnificent Lincoln Memorial; something that, on a personal level, was very inspirational. This preceded a visit to the Smithsonian Museum, where some of our party encountered the walking shambles Boris Johnson, who was on a diplomatic visit whilst also attempting to renounce his US citizenship (which he has as a result of being born in the US). As it also happened to be our last night there, we were allowed a little bit more freedom to have fun, with the culmination of our night being a rather fabulous dance troupe forming, with a conga around the hotel to Boney M being pretty awesome.

In our final day, we visited the U.S. Capitol, the centre of United States politics. A rather small and excitable lady was our tour guide, resulting in a tour that had the potential to pass most people by becoming a rather enthralling one. Obviously, we got to see the world famous White House – home of the President Barack Obama. But unfortunately, it is not as nice as the pictures suggest (the lawn is very poorly maintained, which greatly offended the passionate gardener that is Mrs Champlin).

We flew home from Dulles International airport later that day, arriving back at Heathrow Airport around ten to 7 in the morning. It took us quite a while to actually leave the airport, though, as there happened to be a little debacle involving our coach, which ever so thoughtfully decided to turn up late, ending our wonderful trip in hilarious fashion.



A view from the bridge: everyone on the trip squeezes into the frame.

Creative Zone: Lent Limericks

This month, students were asked to write limericks about Lent or Easter. A limerick is a humorous five-line poem with an AABBA rhyme scheme. Some of these poems use the word 'limerick' loosely, but they're still great!

Easter Limerick

By Alex Moore, Year 7

Easter Day rejoicing creations,
Eating our way through chocolate celebrations,
The story lives on,
Graceful gifts for everyone,
Easter day celebrating God's creations.

Bunny Poem

By Jade Richards, Year 7

The Easter bunny jumps out of his bed at Six AM
To deliver chocolate eggs.
He hops down the street with his basket held tight,
But the basket brakes and they're gone.
The chocolate eggs tumble down the hill,
Rolly pollying past a shoe.
The Easter bunny runs after the eggs
But begins to tumble down the road instead.

Easter Limericks

By Eloise Milewski, Year 7

Don't you just love those fluffy bunnies?
Or them minute chicks, they look rather funny,
But I think chocolate is so sweet,
I would live on chocolate no more veg or meat,

So on Easter morning when I run downstairs,
I will eat every single one of my eggs because who cares?
I filled my tummy and now I have belly ache,
Why did I eat all of them eggs? I have made a real mistake.

So on Eater morning DON'T rush downstairs,
Don't eat all of the eggs, or you will have nightmares!
So listen to your mum,
And then you will not get a filled tum
because believe me belly ache is not very fun!

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Easter Limerick

By Hannah Rogan, Year 7

There once was a small, fluffy bunny,
His life was great, wonderful and funny,
Until one day his eggs rolled away,
"Oh no" he said, "what will mama say"
So he sat down and ate some honey!

The Bunny Poem

By Owen Mason, Year 7

Hop Hop Hop,
The bunny needs to stop.
As fast as lightning:
Hop Hop Hop.
Ears as tall as pens.
Tail as soft as a pillow:
Hop Hop Hop,
This bunny must stop.
Eyes black as jet:
Hop Hop Hop.
Nothing can catch him:
Hop Hop Hop.

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Next month's theme will be: Song for Spring.

**Write a short song connected to the season of
spring.**

**Winners will be published and receive
e-Praise Points!**

Deadline: Thursday 14th May.

Book of the Month

Chinese Cinderella

By Jessica Noble, Year 8

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I enjoyed the autobiography, by Adeline Yen Mah, because the piece of writing is such an inspiration! It gives you a peek through the curtains into her life, it makes you realise how lucky you are! It helps as well, because if you were in any bad situations like she was you would understand how to escape them, because reading things like this gives you ideas how to get out of bad times and step into the good.

If I was to write a list of interesting points the list would be huge! So the few most interesting points were: when she got abused for going to her friend's party because she lied and her step mother and father didn't approve. The second most interesting part was when her father tried to train his dog but he used Adeline's duckling and the dog killed the baby duck. This part built a lot of tension and a spot of sadness for the reader!

The least interesting point was when Adeline went to boarding school, because personally I found that boring because not a lot of things happen in that section.

The writing style used by the author is very descriptive to create a theme or an atmosphere. She used powerful description and adverbs, to get the point of view across! The writing flows really well, it's easy to read and it's enjoyable!

Adeline's life is more than worthy to be a book or to be published. The topic of her autobiography is so inspirational and the world needs to hear what she went through.

The reader can learn that life isn't as happy as people make it out to be it's obviously different behind closed doors!

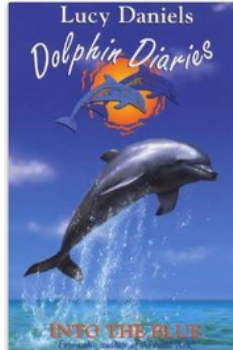


Wath Witty Reviewers:

'Dolphin Nightmares'

By Abbie Taylor , Year 7

At first I thought this book (*Dolphin Diaries*) would be great as there was a very attractive cover. But I was wrong. There are some good parts such as when the main character (Jody) has a surprise visit from all of her classmates. Unfortunately, the majority of the novel was terribly boring, such as when she is in her cabin, as nothing happens. I will share with the really quite unimaginative story line.



Jody (who loves animals) is going on a journey of a lifetime. The boat she rides is called the Dolphin Dreamer (it gives you a lot of unnecessary description). However, there is an unexpected passenger that comes aboard, which brings at least some excitement to the horror that is this book!

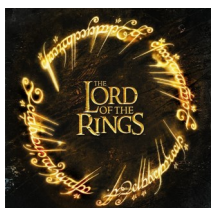
Overall, it was a pretty poor attempt for a story. I would recommend it if you like dolphins, boring words and even more dolphins, but if you're like me and enjoy an exciting book with good words, even more good words and definitely not dolphins, don't bother reading it.

As I read on in the book, my eyes began to droop in boredom as Frodo grew up in the Shire and had no adventures. Only in the third chapter where he decided to leave the Shire did a glimmer of hope light inside me, as I thought "Finally, some adventure!" and I read on. As Frodo left the shire with his friends Merry and Sam, a tonne of description came in, which in some cases would be brilliant, but I had already heard of this description a thousand times before. Continuing on their adventure, they came to an obstacle... the Black Rider in fact. I thought at this point (because it was all the way through the book) there would be a tonne of description, but in a matter of moments, the obstacle was gone! I found it hard to continue as I was so disappointed.

I personally disliked the book but if you enjoy a lot of description and small adventures, this is the book for you, but if you are like me, I would recommend another type of book like the Harry Potter series which I am reading now and has more action packed adventures.

'The Bore Of The Rings'

By Molly Hammerton,
Year 7



As I've read 'The Hobbit', I thought that 'The Lord Of The Rings' would be just as action packed, but I was wrong. When I started reading, I was taken to the fantasy world

Middle Earth and taken to the village of the Shire. I was introduced to the bubbly characters of Frodo – a young hobbit who lived in the Shire with his uncle, Mr Bilbo Baggins (the star of the first book).

The Marvellous Benedict Society!

By Abbie Gault, Year 7

This fantastic mystery novel kept me awake most nights all through the holidays. The first time I read 'The Mysterious Benedict Society', I thought it would be your average spy story – villain, victims, hero saves the day etc. However Trenton Lee Stewart put a brilliant twist on the common plot with witty characters, perfect description and plenty of suspense.



Meet Reynard Muldoon – a typical orphan with no family, no friends and a miserable life. The only talent he has is that he is absurdly clever. Miss Parumal, his tutor, finds an advertisement for smart children to take a test. Reynie attends, changing his

Reading Corner

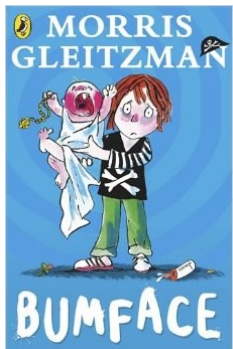
life forever. My favourite character was Kate, because though she seems fearless, she has her own worries. After being separated from her father at an early age, she created a shell around herself to convince people she didn't need help, but when she meets Reynie, sticky and Constance she realised the importance of a team.

'The Mysterious Benedict Society' unravels into twists of spies, mystery and logic; I loved all the suspense and moments when your heart is in your mouth! I'm not telling you what happens so you better pick up a copy!

I would definitely give this book a 10/10, but if I could change one thing, it would be the cover: it doesn't do it justice because the bright cartoon style doesn't match the book.

Bumface

By Sam Brashaw, Year 7



Bumface is a sort-of comedy that is about a mature (like three times his age mature) boy called Angus, who has to look after two infants – Leo and Imogen. His mum is a TV star and hardly spends any time with them. They also all have different dads which Angus refers to as Dad, Number Two and Number Three, as well as Number Four who comes into the story later on.

The start of this story is comical as the scene is in a classroom when they are learning about Human Reproduction. Angus is a very bold character but not as much as Leo because Angus told him to tell the truth. As this story progresses, new characters are introduced like Rindi (an Indian girl that has interests the same as Angus, Number 4 aka 'Gavin' (Angus' Mum's producer who is engaged to be married to) and Patal (a twenty year old man who is meant to marry Rindi in an arranged marriage) and it just gets even funnier until the point where Angus and Rindi technically get married and it's on TV.

Overall, I would give this book a 4.5/5 due to the sheer laughter I experienced while reading this book. The plot is imaginative and even, when it's really funny, manages to keep characters like Angus mature-sounding. Another point is that it contrasts conversation frequently like when Angus' mum tells him good news and then immediately told him something bad which returns him to the state he was in before.

Literacy Matters: Homophones

This term, the literacy focus in school is **homophones**. Homophones are words that sound the same, but have a different spelling and different meanings. For example, the words 'there', 'they're' and 'their' all sound the same, but all mean different things. It's easy to muddle them up, so you need to be careful. Can you sort your 'be' from your 'bee' and your 'I' from your 'eye'?

w w h e e j e u e o x b y t e
 r c i i c v f v p f l e w h a
 i e b z w z l a t o c y s e c
 g u d q s r t u r i t e e r d
 h n f n e z i h a d t m i e t
 t l y s w e b t e i g w z s m
 f y n o e y w o e i l a e e m
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 f d d y s e j h h e o t p c b
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 w u z u k m j c r m g y l t a
 i r n h g h c e a x m y f x w
 z t o b g h e t x r u r x t o

1. This is the r_____ way to do it, Bob!
2. "W____!" said the child as he went down a slide.
3. The f_____ on my chimney.
4. The cut is s_____ from where I fell over.
5. "A____!" said the pirate to say yes.
6. A r_____ is a religious act.
7. "He's over t_____!" shouted the police officer
8. A d_____ refers to an adult female in some animal species such as deer and goat.
9. The e_____ is what we use to see things around us.
10. W_____ is an occupational surname originating in England.
11. T_____ phone has been stolen.
12. He took a b_____ into a chocolate.
13. My friend makes pizza d_____.
14. _____ like turtles.
15. I like to w_____ down random phrases.
16. "T_____'____ over there officer!" said an eye witness.
17. A b_____ is part of a Kilobyte and a Megabyte and a Gigabyte.
18. Pirates travel over the s_____.
19. W_____ like turtles too!
20. The bird f_____ over the lake.
21. I s_____ a mockingjay on the Hunger Games set.
22. He s_____ everything.
23. He has the f_____.
24. "S_____ the gun, officer!" said the constable.

Created by Aaron Duce, Year 7

Politics and Current Affairs:

Why Vote?

By Ethan Gray, Year 8

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In 2001, voting hit the lowest point in years, the turnout was only 59.4%; that means that every 4 in 10 people couldn't be bothered to vote. Ever since, the voter turnout has been creeping up; last General Election it hit 65.1%. But this is still not enough!

There are adults complaining that they don't get heard, but truth is, everyone has their own opinion and it's impossible to make everyone happy. Politicians are also widely recognised for breaking their promises, so I don't really blame adults for becoming disillusioned. And when politicians like Nick Clegg said that student fees should be dropped, but actually increased them, it's hardly surprising, either that many young adults also turn a blind eye to vote.

Currently, politicians carry on making it much harder for young-adults to realise the importance of voting. Because of the shortage of young-adults voting,

THE TORCH Journalists

This edition was produced by Mya Taylor, Charles Lord, Luke Stanley, Aaron Duce, Hannah Steele, Ethan Gray, Eve Spurr, Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith, Mia Hollingsworth-Smith, Charlie Foers, James Jones, Lauren Wilkinson and Miss Taylor. Thanks also to Noah Savage, Jessica Noble, Hannah Rogan, Eloise Milewski, Owen Mason, Alex Moore, Jade Richards, Abbie Taylor, Molly Hammerton, Abbie Gault, Sam Brashaw, Chocolate 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.

politicians believe the strongest and quickest way to win a general election is to aim the publicising at elders; there's no point publicising at people who aren't going to vote. It isn't going to get any better, it's like a vicious cycle.

Voting can be seen as confounding but not if you know what you're doing: research all the various parties and see which one suits you. You can check their manifestos (political beliefs) on the internet, or even speak to local MPs. Don't just show up on the day with no information – if you do, it will be confusing!

On the other hand, If you don't want to vote at all, let me change your mind; your vote can change the whole thing—there could be a one vote difference. However, if you're still not persuaded by this, you could help a member of your family or friends out by voting for a party they support.

Could your vote make a difference?

Are games as harmless as you think?

By Mya Taylor, Year 9



Cookie Clicker: This game might look like any chocolate lover's dream, but experts warn that games like this could hold many hidden dangers, especially if you get 'hooked'.

Crossy Road, AA and Cookie Clicker are games for the iPhone and Android that have taken everyone by storm but are games such as these bad for us? A study done by Harvard showed that going on our phones on games at night could cause different types of cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity. It is thought that it is night-time blue light exposure that's produced by phones, Nintendo DS's and other gadgets like this. It's not clear why night-time phone light exposure seems

Wath Students Speak Out

to be so bad for us. It is also said that games can reduce our IQ and make us dumb.

Another study showed us that more than 13% of us are addicted to our phones resulting in aggression, depression, loneliness and jealousy. The study said that if you are on your phone for more than 3 hours a day you are addicted to it.

It is advised for you to turn your phones off at night and charge them away from your bed and don't go on them for anymore than 3 hours a day. Don't get me wrong phones are good and everything but as technology is developing faster than we evolve who knows what danger we are putting ourselves in?

Terry Pratchett Article

By Eve Spurr, Year 7

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Sir Terry Pratchett, a renowned fantasy author, died aged 66 from Alzheimer's disease. According to his publisher, Penguin Random House, he 'passed away in his home, with his cat sleeping on his bed, surrounded by his family'.

Mr Pratchett was knighted in 2009. In his long career, spanning over 44 years, he wrote 70 books, translated into 37 languages with total sales of 70 million!

His death comes as a great loss to millions of fans, who adored his fantasy series, *Discworld*. Mr Demetriou said, "I was really sad to hear of his death. I grew up with his books."

Wath Warriors have a successful fight!

By Mia Hollingsworth-Smith, Year 8

On 12th March, Wath's cheerleading squad or "Wath Warriors" were competing in a cheerleading competition.

The sense of competition began when students, to their delight, were let out of classes at 2:15 in order to fight through a hectic rush of preparation. We were dressed in intricate blue leotards decorated with an array of sequin stars, making them shine in both ways.

The competition was hosted at Wickersley Comprehensive so the squad endured a long apprehensive journey to the venue.

When we arrived, we were allowed two minutes of practise to ensure the warriors were ready to battle.

The routine was the same as the cheerleading squad's Movement Evening appearance) - a combination of tumbles, creative choreography and dare devilish lifts all incorporated to make an amazing appearance.

It was also nice to watch the other schools groups and gaze in awe at the pupils flying in the air like fireworks while we anticipated our performance.

Wath Warriors' hard work must have been apparent, as we basked in the glory of first place in our category (KS4 Level 1). We earned a wonderful 221 points in total and the chant appeared to exceptionally please the judges with a mark of 7/10.

Wickersley were the overall winners but to say it was Wath's first appearance, they did an outstanding performance!

A massive well done to all girls in the team and a big thank you should be given to Miss Bryce who organised the cheerleading squad!

Sport and Music



Y9 Hall Cross Tournament

By Charlie Foers, Year 9

A fine morning in Doncaster saw the annual 'Hall Cross Tens Tournament', a competition in which four schools go head to head in an attempt to win their final fixtures of the school rugby year. This year, the teams competing were: Wath, Wickersley, Queen Ethelburga's, and the hosts, Hall Cross.

The first game of the day saw Wath face the hosts. Wath had played Hall Cross in a tightly contested match last week and there were some scores to be settled. Wath score first, after keeping the ball well under a lot of pressure. A break away by Charlie Smith, followed by another run by Billy Singh, saw Joel Gunn capitalise on Hall Cross' bad positioning for a try under the posts. Hall Cross picked themselves up and quickly replied to make the scores even. Wath got back in front again, though, after being awarded a high tackle on Owen Roper and Charlie Smith reacted quickest to catch Hall Cross out of position and score another try for Wath to take the lead. Charlie later Smith scored his second try of the game to put Wath 15-5 up. A Hall Cross breakaway saw them score a try under the posts which was converted and the score

was 15-12 going in to the final few minutes. On the restart, a good catch by Cameron Butterworth under pressure meant that Wath kept the ball and assured the victory in the first game.

Wath's second game was against Queen Ethelburgas. Tiredness set in and Ethelburga's quicker players took advantage of this and scored three uncontested tries under the posts. Wath scored a consolation try in the final few minutes which was converted.

Wath then had a rest for a game before playing Wickersley, but Wickersley took advantage of the extra space that a 10 a-side game brings, by drawing players in for the tackle, then exploiting the space left out wide. This was their tactic throughout the tournament with great effect. After scoring numerous tries, Wath didn't give up and scored another consolation try from Charlie Smith, who played some very good rugby throughout the day.

These results meant that Wath came third in the overall standings at the end of the day. Unable to retain their title from last year, it was passed deservedly to Wickersley. The player of the tournament for Wath was Charlie Smith. Well done to all who took part.

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<p>WALLY THE WATH WOMBAT</p> <p><i>When we last ended, forbidden love was turned on its head, then a jealous wombat turned it sour.</i></p>		<p>Wally still hadn't forgiven Hubert for what he had done and said "GO AWAY!"</p>	<p>Wally went to the hard-ware store to buy a hammer. He had a plan.</p>
<p>Wally broke into SeaWorld and smashed the glass to save Pius!</p>	<p>Wally and Pius ran out of SeaWorld all the way to Wally's house!</p>	<p>Wally had some Easter eggs for Pius. Will they live happily ever after or will jealous Hubert get his way?</p>	