



MAKING THINGS RIGHT ON BONFIRE NIGHT

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By Ethan Corbett, Year 7

Bonfire Night. The night of incredible fireworks, delicious sweets and lots of fun. Most people can't wait for this night and some may get a little carried away. But did you know that on average there are one thousand firework-related injuries requiring treatment every single year?

With Bonfire Night just around the corner (November 5th), you need to know the safety precautions. If you are going to host one, make sure you have checked everything so you can put on a good show and have fun.

Here are some dos and don'ts for Bonfire Night to make sure you stay safe and make the most of this special night.

Dos

- Stand away from the fire.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby.
- Check for hidden animals in the wood.
- Leave adults to clean up fireworks.
- Keep pets inside while setting off fireworks.

Don'ts

- Stand near a lit firework.
- Light fireworks after 11:00PM.
- Don't give sparklers to children under five.
- Pick up fireworks unless instructed.
- Put the bonfire near trees, bushes, etc.

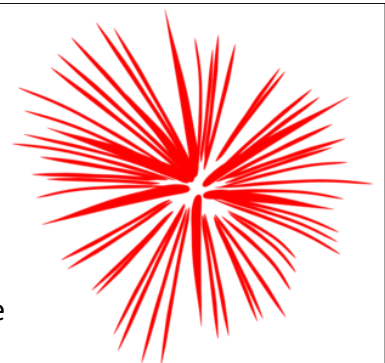
So, keep in mind these useful tips to keep yourself safe on Bonfire Night.

Fireworks Challenge

THE TORCH has been through a shower of fireworks!

Versions of the word 'spark' have appeared in five different places within this issue (including this page!). Can you help us to locate them all?

Have a good look through the issue and bring your copy to Miss Taylor if you find them all. The first five winners will receive a small prize; others will receive e-Praise points.



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have enjoyed a very busy start to the school year following our excellent examination results this Summer.

The key results were:

i) GCSE:

- 5 A* - C with English and Maths 61%
- 5 A* - C 68%
- 5 A* - G 95%
- 1 A* - G 100%
- Ebacc[†] A*-C 33%

[†] a combination of English, Maths, Science, MFL and History/Geography

We were very pleased that these were an increase on last year's very good results and place us amongst the top performing schools in Rotherham.

ii) A Level:

- 99.3% pass rate
- 40% A*/B grades

These are very impressive 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 Y13 Presentation Evening at the end of term.

Across our school community, we continue to focus on

Upcoming

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A new column is coming to The Torch where pupils can write in anonymously in and I will read your letters and give you advice whether it be about friendship circles, problems with school work or anything else, I will try and read your letters and advice you on the subject.

Please post your letters in the box outside the uniform shop labelled 'The Torch'. Thank you.

raising academic standards and opportunities, remaining fully committed to our aim of ensuring that all our students receive a high quality educational experience and leave us able, active and qualified.

We had 127 more applications than places available for Year 7: over 300 students have joined the school and appear to be settling in quickly, adjusting to life and routines in our very large comprehensive school. In order to gain the maximum benefit from the extensive opportunities available, we encourage as many students as possible. Year 7 seem to be really stepping up to this challenge.

We also welcomed a number of new students into our large Sixth Form and hope that they have also embraced the opportunities on offer here.

In addition, I would also offer our new staff a warm welcome and very best wishes for a successful and enjoyable career with us.

Sadly, this half term has not been entirely positive. I am sure that you will be aware that a couple of weeks ago, all three of our minibuses were torched and completely destroyed overnight. This is an unprecedented act of wanton vandalism and was a huge shock for staff and students, who have taken it very personally. The minibuses are essential to our extensive curriculum support and extra-curricular programme for field trips, residential experiences, day visits and our sports fixtures programme. All of these have been affected by this malicious act. We are currently working with the insurers to accelerate the replacement of the vehicles and of course, the police, to ensure that those responsible are found. Considerable progress has been made.

We would, however, welcome any further information in support of the ongoing police investigation.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Ward
Headteacher



News in Brief

Science Congratulations

250 current Y11 students completed their Science A GCSE qualification at the end of Y10. A huge congratulations to all on some fantastic results, the highest the school has ever had. 80% of all students achieved a grade A*-C and 24% of students achieved a grade A* / A. Students of all abilities made fantastic progress from KS2, with 73% of students making three or more levels of progress and 38% of students making four or more levels of progress. Well done, Y11! Students are now studying for their Additional Science qualification and have already started attending after school revision sessions in preparation for this. Keep it up, Y11!

Year 7 Carousel

On Friday 25th September, Year 7 students took part in a carousel of European activities in the hall to celebrate European Day of Languages. Students worked in teams led by Sixth Form volunteers to earn points. All students worked extremely enthusiastically and were a credit to the school. Prizes will be awarded to winning teams soon.

Free Your Feet Challenge



In September, Year 7 students were challenged to increase the amount of times they walked to school. We then compared one week's worth of normal walking to the 'Challenge Week' to see who could walk more. Students who had continued to walk to school, or who had managed to increase their walking, were put into a draw to win one of five £10 Love to Shop vouchers, and Strider, the Free Your Feet mascot, visited school on the Thursday morning to encourage students to take part.

The 'Free Your Feet' challenge was part of the Living Streets charity's programme of activities which aim to encourage more people to get walking. This benefits not only students, in terms of their health and giving them time to socialise with friends, but also the wider community by reducing the volume of traffic around the school gates. Students were keen to take part in the challenge and we saw a big rise in the number of students walking to school.

Anne Frank Exhibition



There were several informative displays about Anne Frank and the Holocaust.

From 7-17th September, Wath Comprehensive had the opportunity to host an exhibition that explored the story of Anne Frank and the Holocaust. The exhibition was provided by the Anne Frank Trust. Year 8 students were invited to take part in this unique and exciting opportunity by becoming guides for the exhibition. Students were selected as guides based on their motivation within school and the potential they had already demonstrated in History.

Students and visitors were invited to view the exhibition to explore Anne's story and the history of the Holocaust, whilst thinking about issues that affect them in the 21st century. Staff from the Anne Frank Trust trained a group of twenty Year 8 students to guide other students, including local primary school students, teachers and visitors around the exhibition.

Some of the Year 8 guides will be chosen to represent Wath Comprehensive School when the exhibition is hosted at Riverside House later in the year. These ambassadors will have the opportunity to share their knowledge with a range of people from primary school children to Council Officials.

The Anne Frank Schools' Programme takes the poignant messages of Anne's life and diary and helps students understand the damage caused by prejudice and hatred. It helps young people to increase their knowledge of Anne Frank and the Holocaust; understand the consequences of unchecked prejudice and discrimination; explore, understand, respect and celebrate cultural diversity; learn more about themselves and their local community; increase their confidence, as they develop their literacy and presentation skills; and develop respect for others.

Latest Happenings from

Eurovision Comes to Wath

By Molly Hammerton, Year 8



On Thursday 24 September, the Year 8 students were entertained by Wath's staff. There were many weird and wonderful acts like Mrs Shaw's amazing Armenian singing, the French teachers' extraordinary National Anthem and the winning entry: the P.E. department's less-than-amazing Irish Dancing. The generous judges were Miss Drumgoon, Mrs Ward, Charles Lord, Olivia Sanderson and the amazing and funny host was Mr Rolling. The afternoon as a whole was a great success with the audience joining in on the Science Department's version of ABBA's classic hit 'Waterloo' and many other popular songs. I'm sure all of the other Year 8s would agree with me that we thoroughly enjoyed the performance and would love to see other performances like it.

Rotherham Youth Cabinet

By Emilia Ashton, Year 12

Rotherham Youth Cabinet is a group of young people from across Rotherham who feel passionate about the voices of young people. Made up of representatives from schools across Rotherham, we meet 6 times a year at Rotherham Town Hall to discuss what work has been done since the last meeting and listen to the invited guests. We also normally meet once during the half term and these are more informal and are known as "Training days", where we usually meet at MyPlace in

Rotherham. We also have a chance to go on trips and visits, with our annual residential always being a fun and enjoyable experience.

As a group, we hassle key decision makers and make sure the voices of our young people are heard. For everyone who says that young people can't make a difference, you are wrong! We do make a difference; you just need to stick at what you want to change. As a group, we want to know what you want to change so if you have a problem, or want to change something please email us at Rotherhamyouthcabinet@gmail.com. We are also on twitter @Rotherham_YC and on Facebook at Rotherham Youth Cabinet so give us a like and a follow. We launch our manifesto on October 22nd, so keep an eye out next half term for further details about that.

Make Your Mark 2015

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By Emilia Ashton, Year 12

Before the summer holidays had even started, Youth Councillors were pushing for schools to sign up for Make Your Mark. The ballot was launched in the summer and this was where the 10 issues on the ballot paper, which had been chosen by the members of Youth Parliament, were revealed. Across the country, there was then a massive push for votes. Could we reach a million?

With schools starting back, Make Your Mark was in full swing. Up and down the country, people were voting for which issue was the most important. Here at Wath Comprehensive planning was already underway to let

inside the School Gates

pupils have their voice. Assembly slots were booked and ballot papers were counted and sorted.

In your assemblies, you had the chance to find out what Make Your Mark was and were given a first look at the issues on the ballot paper. The following day, you voted... but which issue came out on top?

Well, the results are in! In total, 1,082 of you had your say in the country's largest youth consultation. Now to reveal the top three issues at Wath Comprehensive (drum roll, please). In third place was a Curriculum for Life for which 127 of you voted. In second place was the Improvement of Transport services for which 200 of you voted. The issue in first place was Living Wage with a landslide amount of votes at 417.

The final results were across the whole country was 918,000. To find out more about Make Your Mark, and to get involved in further issues, please contact Rotherham UKYP via:

Twitter - RotherhamUKYP

Facebook - UKYP Rotherham

Email - ukyp.rotherham@gmail.com

Councillors Come to Wath



By Emilia Ashton, Year 12

12th to 16th October is Local Democracy Week and as part of this every year, Sixth Formers have the chance to question local councillors on the issues that matter to them. This is an annual event and this year, councillor Alan Atkin and councillor Jane Hamilton came in to face the music. There were two representatives from each

6th Form tutor and they were the ones who had to ask the question. There were some really difficult ones, which challenged the councillors and put them under pressure. This is a really useful session as it allows Sixth Formers to have an insight into politics and have a chance to have their say about the issues that matter to them. We even learnt that there will be a University of Rotherham which will be coming soon.

Minibus Misery

By Charles Lord, Year 13

On Monday 28th September, the sight of three torched out minibuses greeted shocked pupils and staff alike. Immediately, the motives behind such a seemingly random attack were questioned as everyone began trying to work out why someone would target our vital method of transportation.

Used to provide so many successful trips, including curriculum visits for individual departments, theatre trips and sports fixtures, in the short term the buses will be missed. However, as a school, we must now be patient as the police investigation gets underway.

Reports published in the local press suggest that the attack happened in the early hours of 28th September but go on to say how the site was, and remains, secure with no one hurt in the incidents, no buildings damaged and CCTV footage collected.

The police have reached out for anyone with any information to contact them via the non-emergency number 101; quoting incident number 59.

THE TORCH Journalists

This edition was produced by Lauren Williams, Savanna Davis, Lauren Clack, Ethan Corbett, Aaron Duce, Molly Hammerton, James Jones, Eve Spurr, Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith, Mia Hollighsworth-Smith, Mya Taylor, Georgia Oliver, Shannon Hopwood, Emilia Ashton, Charles Lord, Luke Stanley and Miss Taylor. Thanks also to Spark, 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.

Creative Zone: First Days

This month, students were asked to welcome in the school year by writing imaginative accounts (real or otherwise) of first days at school.

My First Day at Wath

Kirin Howat, Year 7

As I opened my eyes, the morning sunlight peeped through the curtain. 6:30 was the time. Omigosh, I can't believe it. This was the day. The first day at Wath Comp.

As I jumped out of bed, my sister walked into my room to tell me to get dressed. Putting on my blazer felt really enjoyable and I felt really grown-up.

Half of me felt nervous and part of me felt excited. Finally, we got into the car and set off. As I walked in, I looked up and felt a rush of adrenaline run through my body. Suddenly, we all got called to line up with our tutors. Mrs Greenfield was standing in the middle and I lined up.

As I walked into assembly, my top lip trembled with fear. Mrs Cartwright talked to us and suggested things to do and clubs to join. Also, Mr Fleming talked to us about houses. Finally, we walked with our tutor back to our classroom. Whilst we were there, we played teamwork games.

At lunchtime, we got lunch and ate with my sister. After that, we went to the library to do some reading and stuff. When the bell rang, we went to Geography and met up with my classmates.

Geography was really fun with Mr Murtagh and so was German. In German, we learned about all the people who could speak German and it was really fascinating. In Geography, we learned about the things we were going to do in Year 7.

When I got home, I was really tired. After a long day of work, I went to bed until tea was ready.

Back to School

By Lauren Clack, Year 7

"Come on! Get up! You're going to be late!" shouted Mum as she shook me awake.

"Fine, fine, I'm up." I almost jumped out of my skin when I looked at the clock; it was almost time for school to start! I didn't want to be late on my first day!

On the bus, I started to think of all the scenarios that could happen if I was late...

·I would get to tutor at 8:40 instead of 8:30 and get a detention.

·When someone handed me my detention slip at class, everyone in my class would know about it.

·I would miss my dance club and get potentially banned.

·My mum would probably ground me for the next week.

·I wouldn't be able to meet my friends at the skate park and they will probably despise me until they forget why.

Should I worry?

My First Day at Wath

By Rebecca Scarth, Year 7

At approximately 6.30 am, I woke from a deep sleep. As soon as I hopped out of bed, I felt a rush through my body. It was like the worst tummy ache in the world. I was extremely eager to get into school uniform, so I got dressed straight away. Just to look smart, I had my hair done as it would have looked a total mess.

At 8.00am, I was taken to my friend Amy's house. My friend Ellis was also there as well. While we were walking up, we met Hannah on the way. When we got into school, we were told to take a seat in the hall because it was assembly time. After some of the teachers had spoken about the expectations, we then went to our tutor room and spent the morning with them.

With our tutor, we got our extremely organised

Next month's theme will be: Seasonal Sagas!

Write a minisaga (50 word short story) about the theme of Christmas.

Winners will be published and receive e-Praise Points!

Deadline: Thursday 5th February

planner and our timetable. We were asked to write all of our timetable into our planner and it took me quite a long time to finish it but I got there in the end.

At lunchtime, I had my dinner, which was jacket potato. It was exquisitely tasty. For the rest of my lunch, I talked to my friends. I talked to them to see if they were liking the school and they said, "YES."

In the afternoon, we did lessons with our proper classes, not just with our tutors. They were very, very good and fun lessons.

I love it at Wath Comprehensive School!

My First Day at Wath

By Emily Loy, Year 7

It's 07:00. As I jump out of bed, my sister, Megan, walks into my bedroom. "Good luck," she says. Then she walks out, probably back to bed. Quickly, I change into my uniform, brush my hair, have breakfast and am ready to go!

As my mum pulls up in the carpark, I see the school for the first time; it's so massive compared to St. Helen's. The tennis courts are as big as my whole primary school! I step out of the car and see Maisie, my best friend, so I rush to her and we walk in together.

Since we're the only ones going to Wath Comprehensive from our primary, all the students seem so overwhelming; I'm so nervous but excited. The first thing I do is get lined up in my tutor rooms and Mr Rolling (my tutor) tells us all about the school and gives us our planners, calculators and house badges.

The next lesson I had was German in G5 with Miss Williamson. Again, we didn't really do any work, but she did show us some videos of celebrities who could speak German. Did you know that Sandra Bullock is fluent? Then, the end of school bell went and I made my way to the carpark where my mum would be waiting.

Today's been really good; can't wait for tomorrow!

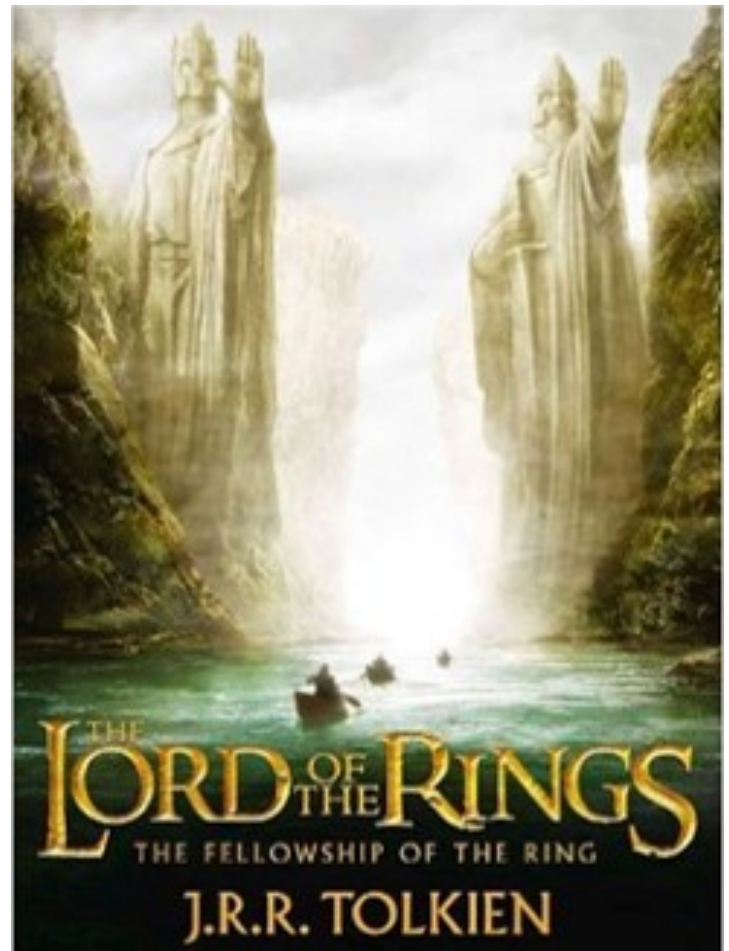
Katie the Cat in her Purple Hat

By Savanna Davis, Year 7

Katie is a beautiful and loving ginger kitten, who loves to sit on her caring owner (Miss Baker's) lap. Once, Miss Baker knitted a gorgeous purple hat, she added a blue and white swirl button. It seemed like a jewel on the unique hat; it was beautiful. Katie loved it so much she wanted to wear it straight away. Although it's been two years, she still wears and loves it now.

Book of the Month

By Georgia Oliver, Year 10



This book will sweep you in to a world of fantasy and adventure! When Sauron the dark wizard, lord of all darkness, gathers all the Elvish rings of power, all that stands in the way of him ruling Middle-Earth is his lack of the one ring; the one ring to rule them all. This, by coincidence, has fallen in to the unlikely hands of Frodo Baggins, a young hobbit who had just reached adulthood when the ring fell in to his possession. In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself facing an immense task, as his elderly cousin Bilbo entrusts the ring to his care. Frodo must leave his home and make a perilous journey across Middle Earth to the Mount Doom, there to destroy the ring and foil the dark lord in his evil purpose.

Brilliant and funny, this story is the first part of the three part series of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord Of The Rings*, way better than the movies which lack detail and important characters that build up to the whole journey. This book is worth the read and once you are tangled in the Middle-Earth adventures, you won't be able to put it down.

You can never get enough of this jam packed, thrilling novel. I am certain that you will love it.

Meet the New Staff at Wath

Seeing a lot of new faces around school? Finding it hard to keep track of all your new teachers? Several (Charles Lord) caught up with the newest recruits to the teaching staff, to ask them the questions we all want

Mrs Broughton

Mrs Broughton is a new member of the drama faculty. She is very passionate about her subject and helps the students in any way she can. Most students would describe her as being funny, approachable and helpful. We are very lucky to have such a kind teacher join our school and we hope Mrs Broughton enjoys her time here.



Mr Davis

Mr Davis' favourite book is called *Cloudless*. In his spare time, he enjoys going for walks in places like the old moor and take pictures of the scenery or wildlife around him. He wanted to teach science because it's cool to know why things are alive. If he had a super power, it would be telekinesis. His favourite sport is football. If he could describe himself in three words, he would say he is "ginger", "bearded" and "funny".



Mr Duffy

Mr Duffy's favourite book is *The Time Traveller's Wife* because it's an interesting science fiction story that made him think about



age. In his free time, he goes windsurfing and plays tennis now and then. His favourite band is Pulp, in particular, their song 'Common People'. Mr Duffy wanted to teach his subject because he thinks humanities give an insight into the world we live in. If he had a superpower, he says he would have the Wolverine's healing ability, and would describe himself as "honest", "open" and "forgetful".

Mr Gale

Mr Gale is a new addition to the English department, who told us that his passion for reading led him to become an English teacher with his favourite books being *1984* and *Wuthering Heights*. Heathcliff was also notably one of his ideal dinner guests, along with Daniel Radcliffe and Shakespeare. Furthermore, his favourite TV show is *Doctor Who*, with time travel being his superpower of choice! When asked for three words to describe himself Mr Gale simply said: "Love. My. Hair." To be fair, it is pretty cool, sir!

Mr Gibbins

Mr Gibbins' favourite book is *The BFG* because its meaning is simple: don't judge a book by its cover.



In his spare time, he likes playing football and cricket, spending time with his family and walking his dog. His favourite song is 'Stand by Me' by Ben E King. Mr Gibbins wanted to teach his subject because he has grown with sport and has found that it makes him very happy; he would like to make others feel that way. His favourite television series is *Homeland*. If he could have any superpower, it would be to control time to stop accidents from happening.

Mr Gibson

In Mr Gibson's spare time, he practices his martial arts while listening to his favourite band, Blink 182. He enjoys teaching his subject, biology, simply because he thinks it's the best! His favourite TV series is *Red Dwarf* as he finds it very funny. If he could have any superpower, he would have the ability to control time. Mr Gibson's favourite sport is taekwondo. If he could go to dinner with any fictional or non-fictional characters, he would go with Steve Carrell, Jim Carrey and Richard Ayoade.

Mr Kingston

Mr Kingston's favourite book is *Like The Mystery* by Da Vinci Croe and in his spare time he rides his road bike. He is also a fan of Kings Of Leon, and



Comprehensive School

journalists from THE TORCH (Savanna Davis, Lauren Clack, Lauren Williams, Molly Hammerton, Georgia Oliver, to know. Read on to find out all about them!

his favourite song by them is 'Pyro'. Also, he says he teaches his subject because he loves being creative. If he could have a super power, he would be fast, and his favourite sports are golf, rugby, road bike racing (obviously a sporty guy!).



choose to eradicate unnecessary wars and suffering.

Mrs Schofield

Mrs Schofield is a new member of the ICT faculty. She has lots of favourite songs but never get to actually listen to them as her girls always play DJ

and listen to their songs instead. She wanted to teach her subject because she never stops enjoying gaining knowledge about the world we live in. At the moment, her favourite TV show is *Apprentice*.

Miss Tuck

Miss Tuck's favourite book is *Harry Potter* because she loves all the magic and fantasy. In her spare time, she also enjoys swimming, shopping for clothes, and sometimes even visiting her friends in London.



Miss Turton

Miss Turton is a new geography/history teacher at school. Her favourite book is *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. Miss Turton loves to dance and says that she's watched

Mrs Radford is the new Head of KS4 in the English department. Her favourite book is *Dracula* because she loves vampires and reads a lot, goes shopping and likes to go out for food in her spare time. Her favourite TV show is *Supernatural* and if she had a superpower, she would fly as she hates driving.

Mr Roberts

Mr Roberts has joined our school in the inclusion department meaning he will be helping out in isolation and the inclusion office. Our interview with Mr Roberts revealed that in his spare time he runs for Barnsley AC, competing in distance races from 5k to marathon. A compassionate humanitarian, Mr Roberts said if he had any superpower he would



just about every film on record! Miss Turton loves geography because she loves to learn about the world and the people in it. Miss Turton's dream superpower would be to stop time!

Mr Wilby

Mr Wilby's favourite book is the *Gruffalo* because of his daughter. In his spare time, he goes on his mountain bike or, if he's feeling less active, goes on his PS4. His favourite sport is rugby. Kasabian is his favourite band and to describe himself in three words he would choose "geeky", "friendly" and "hungry". He would like to spend an evening with his grandparents.



Mrs Wright

Mrs Wright's favourite book is *The White Queen* because she loves that period of history. She also likes knitting toys and her favourite song and artist is T. Rex's 'I Like to Boogie'. Her favourite TV series is *The White Queen* (who would have thought). I asked what superpower she would have if she could have one and she said "omni-benevolence".



Politics and Current Affairs:

Syrian Refugee Crisis

By Luke Stanley, Year 13

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While the present conflict in Syria began in March 2011, the plight of the Syrian population only came to prominence in Western countries following the arrival of refugees on European shores (previously, people had only sought to seek refuge in neighbouring middle Eastern countries and Turkey). Now having a direct impact upon those in Europe, it was an issue that could no longer be ignored; influxes of refugees began to arrive at Calais, affecting British holidaymakers and businesses alike and animosity towards the victims of war began to grow. However, images of families landing on beaches in decrepit and aged dinghies, images of young children washed up on beaches and stories of families torn apart all began to circulate in the British media and people's views began mature, shored up by empathy. Large swathes of British people called for the government to increase our refugee intake (out of approximately 12 million displaced Syrians, the UK had accepted only 5,000 prior to the start of September). Even notoriously discriminatory newspapers such as The Daily Mail and The Sun urged our government to take action; the image of three year old Aylan Kurdi, washed up on a beach in the Mediterranean being the poster for pro-refugee headlines. As a direct consequence of such images and such media campaigns, the incumbent government pledged that they would accept a further 20,000 refugees by 2020. The question ruminating from this, however, is whether we will still be doing too little? Compared to Germany, who have proclaimed they will welcome up to 800,000 refugees, the UK looks like it is

only doing a tenth of a job. Add to this the fact that any Syrian refugee under the age of 18 who is accepted will be deported once they reach the aforementioned age, then the UK government can be seen as being open to great chastisement.

What do you think about the present crisis? Should the UK accept more refugees, or are we doing enough already?

The Smiler? More like "The Frowner"

By Savanna Davies, Year 7

As most people know, in June a horrifying thing happened: a popular ride called The Smiler suddenly stopped which caused many serious and minor injuries, like Leah Washington and Vicky Balch - each had legs amputated after The Smiler crash happened but luckily, they survived.

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As a result of this, there has been an investigation about why the ride stopped working. A report in The Mail in August tells us that human error, and a failure to follow basic safety procedures could have led to the devastating accidents. But is it really a mistake?

I think there is only one way to stop future injuries. We should get parents to sign a letter saying: "Until The Smiler is definitely fixed, I will not let my child on it." Should we do this or should we leave it to hurt others like it did to Alton Towers' victim Vicky Balch who wants The Smiler ride to remain closed down?

What do you think about these recent tragic events?

Wath Students Speak Out

Mike the Miracle Chicken!

By James Jones, Year 8

Mike the chicken is an amazing example of miracles. He somehow managed to live 1,000,000 times longer than a normal chicken would; average chickens live for around 3 hours though this amazing chicken managed to live 18 months without a head. He was born in 1945 and was decapitated that year, but after that event, as the farmers who witnessed it said, "The chicken just couldn't die!"

There is no real explanation to why the sparky chicken lived for so long, although the chicken must have really wanted to stay alive!

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There are many terrible side-effects for the drugs found in sports, and the table below lists some of the main ones.

Types of drug	Effect on performance	Side effects	Sports used in
Stimulants	Reduce pain, raise aggression and increase reaction speed.	Highly addictive, Risk of injury as pain is suppressed, high blood pressure, strokes, heart and liver problems.	Tennis/football players
Steroids	They increase muscle mass	High blood pressure, heart disease, infertility, cancer, women take on male characteristics e.g. facial hair	Weight lifters
Diuretics	To lose weight, clear traces of other substances in urine.	Cause dehydration and increased urination.	Jockeys
Epo	Similar effects as anabolic steroids.	Cause strokes and abnormal growth patterns.	Cyclists
Beta-blockers	Lower the heart rate, reduce anxiety, steadying shaky hands.	Angina, heart failure, atrial fibrillation, heart attack, high blood pressure	Snooker players

Illapel Earthquake

By Aaron Duce, Year 8

Lance Armstrong won the yellow jersey many times. He developed testicular cancer then he recovered from cancer and won the Tour de France. He denied taking drugs but recently confessed that he actually had blood transfusions to hide his drug-taking.

This is a disgrace to the sporting community and this selfish act may have triggered the manhandling of many athletes!

On 16th September 2015, at 19:54 CST, the 2015 Illapel earthquake shook Chile. This earthquake was 46 kilometres (29 miles) offshore with a magnitude of 8.3. The depth of the earthquake was 25 kilometres (15.5 miles) which combines with the fact that it was offshore, triggering a tsunami. Chile and Argentina were the only two areas affected, but there have been 13 fatalities and 6 missing in Chile, and 1 fatality and minor injuries in Argentina according to Wikipedia on 1st October. So far, there have been 13 aftershocks of 6.0 magnitude and higher. On 21st September, officials said 9,000 people have been left homeless in Chile so far.

Drugs in Sport

By Mya Taylor, Year 10
and Eve Spurr, Year 8

Sport and Music

Sports Day 2015



By Shannon Hopwood, Year 11

That morning was beautiful and sunny; perfect weather for athletics. Everyone was buzzing with excitement; each competitor was hoping to do their best and have a good day. Each house had a separate section in the stands, which, over the course of the day, increased everyone's team spirit tenfold. By the time the final events rolled around, even the quietest students were on their feet and cheering.

Over the course of the day, multiple records were broken and many students found themselves with a new personal best. Overall, the day was truly wonderful; everyone had fun, regardless of the place that they came in their events. They supported and

cheered for their teammates, creating a fantastic atmosphere for both spectators and competitors. In the end, everyone left the stadium with a smile; even if they didn't win their events, they were happy for those who did well.

This year, Rome came out on top by a whopping 70 points. Unfortunately, this was Mr. Harper's last year organising sports day, after many successful years in the job. Next year, he is to be succeeded by Mr Fleming, Maths teacher and head of Troy.

Results

Rome (333 points)
Athens (263 points)
Troy (254 points)

Sparta (226 points)
Carthage (207 points)
Thebes (199 points)

<p>Wally was back to school after the holidays, but not everything was how it ended.</p>	<p>Pius and Wally had broke up!</p>	<p>When they were on holiday , Wally saw Hubert and Pius kissing. Now they are an item.</p>
<p>Wally heard Hubert telling Sam the snake that he was never Wally's friend and that he had been trying to get with Pius.</p>	<p>It was at lunch when a bad thing really happened. Wally dove on to Hubert and they began to fight.</p>	<p>Wally and Hubert both found the selves in the P.Y.L office.</p>