



THE TORCH

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Able, Active and Qualified
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The Student Newspaper of Wath Comprehensive School: A Language College

TRULY LOVELY ON THE DAY

By Carys Garner and Savanna Davies, Year 7

The thought of Valentine’s Day is lovely, especially sending your girlfriend or boyfriend gifts like a box of chocolates, flowers, a cute, cuddly toy, a card or even taking them somewhere special like the cinema, a restaurant and shopping.

Nowadays, it’s so easy to make someone feel special—places like MoonPig and Funky Pigeon specialise in truly personalised cards and, for those not wanting the cost, many e-cards are free and easy to create with a few simple clicks.

It is estimated that in the US alone, 190 million cards are sent each year. Valentine’s Day is all about showing someone you care, but it doesn’t have to be someone who you’d like to be your boyfriend or girlfriend. It can be nice to send a card to a best friend, just to show them how much you value their friendship, especially if you

know they’ve been having a difficult time recently.

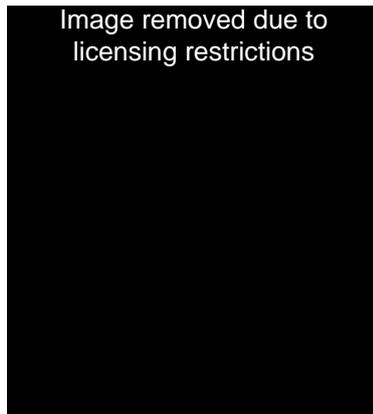
But you should never send a Valentine’s card or present as a joke. It can really upset the person, especially if they like you. Just imagine the disappointment they will feel when they learn the truth, after being

so excited shortly before. No one deserves to be made to feel like that.

So don’t be mean, be keen. If you want to give your Valentine something, then do so. Just remember that it can be hurtful for someone if you do it as a joke and if your real

girlfriend or boyfriend discovers that you sent a Valentine’s gift to someone else, whatever the reason, it’ll break their heart.

No one wants to be lonely on Valentine's Day. So be nice to the ones you love or they won't love you back! Try to be nice at this lovely time of year!



Heart Challenge

THE TORCH is feeling the love this issue!

Versions of the word ‘heart’ have appeared in **eight** different places within this issue (not including this page!). Can you help us to locate them all?

Have a good look 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.

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Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

Although this is a relatively short term, it is also an exceptionally busy one. This is particularly the case for all students in key examination years as their final examinations begin in less than three months' time.

Year 11 students took preliminary examinations in most subjects before Christmas and Years 12 and 13 have been sitting theirs since the beginning of term. Year 11 students are also busy completing the controlled assessments, which are an important aspect of the course in many subjects. The extensive programme of support and revision has begun and will run every evening until the end of the examination period. All students will have received a timetable and a letter informing them which evenings they must attend but they are of course welcome to attend others. Parents of Year 11 students will shortly be notified of the study programme, which will run through the Easter and May holidays. We have been very pleased so far with the students' response to these extra sessions but urge you as parents to ensure that your child takes full advantage of what is offered. I am very appreciative that staff in all subject areas are giving of their time so willingly to support students not only beyond the school day but also in the holidays.

Final preparations are underway for our annual Gym, Dance and Movement evening performances which will take place on 10, 11 and 12 February. This year's theme is 'Back to the Future' and our students and pupils from all our feeder primary schools will, I'm sure, once again provide high quality, creative performances to three appreciative audiences. If you haven't been able to get tickets this year, as they sell out fast, do try to come along next year!

I have again been asked to draw parents/carers attention to the matter of student eligibility for free

school meals. A large number of the students who join us from primary school have been in receipt of free school meals but do not continue to receive them at secondary school. We strongly believe that far more students are eligible for free school meals than are in receipt of them.

Advice on how to apply together with the relevant application form is available via a link from the parents section of the school website; alternatively, this information is available from the school office. I can reassure you that every aspect of the process from application to receipt of meals is totally confidential and students who have free school meals have the same lunch card as all other students.

It is really important that all of our students with an entitlement to free school meals receive them, particularly as the Government introduced the Pupil Premium during the last academic year, which generates additional funding to support students who are on Free School Meals, looked after by the Local Authority or with a parent in the armed forces. Listed below is information relating to the entitlement criteria.

You are entitled to free school meals for your children if you receive:

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)
- State Pension Credit (Guaranteed Credit)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Child Tax Credit (with an annual income of less than £16,190)
- Asylum Seeker Status

If any of these describes your situation, you are strongly encouraged to apply. If you require any assistance, please contact the school and we will organise for you to have confidential and individual support with the paperwork if you wish.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Ward
Headteacher



Date for your Diary

By Savanna Davies, Year 7

Get ready for World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. It's going to be spectacular fun and you'll get to laugh at your English teachers (and hopefully other teachers, too!) in their silly costume, with impression of their favourite book characters. This year's theme is 19th century novels, and a select few year 7 students lucky enough to get chosen will have fun in the library on this book-tacular day!

News in Brief

Year 7 Castle Competition

Before Christmas, Year 7 history students were busy producing 3D model castles for the annual model castle competition. This year entries were particularly imaginative, ranging from a Hogwarts inspired creation, to a Malteaser and chocolate extravaganza! First place went to Lucy Redfern in 7KS for a particularly realistic motte and bailey castle, but well done to every student who participated.



English Faculty Theatre Trip

Last month, twenty-four Year 11 students went to the Lyceum Theatre in Sheffield to watch a performance of 'An Inspector Calls' by J.B. Priestley. They are studying the text for GCSE English Literature. The brilliantly-staged performance is the original London production and was received very well by our group, as well as a large audience of other young students and other playgoers. The play is often on tour, so whether you are studying it or not, it is well worth a visit!



Agony Aunt

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restrictions

Thank you to this person who wrote in saying:

'I have been bullied recently, I have told a teacher and the bullies have been told off – but will it escalate?'

First of all, you did the right thing by telling a teacher about the problem as it is the fastest way to solve it. Second, I know what you're going through because I have been bullied as well in my life and I know how it feels, but back to your question. Unfortunately, being punished doesn't always stop them from being mean to you but don't lose hope, try to avoid them if they begin to seem mean again and if they are in your classes, ask your teacher to keep an eye on them because it is better than nothing. If they start again, don't suffer in silence and do what you did before and tell a teacher again. Hopefully, they'll learn not to. Also, talk to your friends about it and join different clubs so you can get away from them in your dinner and break times. If it continues, please write again.

If any of you again need help with friendship groups, bullies or anything else, please write to me, I'd be happy to help.

Yours faithfully,

Agony Aunt.

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restrictions

Thank you to whoever sent in this letter:

'My best friend told me that she hates me, I am very upset.'

Most of us will have this predicament where our friends or someone who's close to us will say something horrible to us, but remember, no matter what someone says to you, they probably don't mean it and will probably regret it later. Try not to take it to heart and be ready for if they come up to you and say sorry. If you take it to heart, hang out with your other friends because there's no point pining after someone who can't admit to being wrong, I know from experience. I hope this helped.

Yours faithfully,

Agony Aunt.

In the Spotlight:

Hockey Champion of Wath Comprehensive!

By Lauren Williams and Lucy Redfern, Year 7



One of Wath Comprehensive School's very own Year 7s has been chosen to represent England's under thirteens hockey team on 9th February. Along with another seventeen attributes to the group, he is one of the very lucky people to be a part of the team competing against other countries in Quebec, Canada. Tom shared with us his feelings on the topic: he said, "I'm really excited and can't wait to go."

He also mentioned that he has been in the club for only five months and that this is his first international competition. However, he has been playing hockey for over two years, and having established lots of skills with his team (selected from many different regions of Britain such as Wales and England), he believes they have a good chance of winning the competition.

He would also like hockey to be a major part of his career and he would hopefully like to study at a university for hockey players in Canada. Another long-term goal that he wants to achieve is to get into the

Olympics and become a famous hockey player, likely a defender (his current position). But, for now, he is simply focusing on the tournament in Canada, and enhancing his skills at the ice hockey arena in Sheffield.

Royal Mail Winner

By Olivia Storey, Year 7

It was announced this half term that a winner of the South Yorkshire Regional Finals for a Royal Mail competition was our very own Daniel Nutley!

The competition, created by the Royal Mail, asked students across the country to write a handwritten letter, an application for a dream job. Out of thousands of applications from South Yorkshire, Dan was chosen as the most interesting and engaging writer.

We caught up with him to ask him about how he felt to be through into the next round of the competition. He said, "I was very excited when I found out that I won the regionals. Also, I was ecstatic when I found out that not only did I win £40 for myself but another £40 for the school."



Dan had to write a letter to apply for his dream job. Liking technology, he chose to apply for a job at the

Student Interviews

technology company Apple.

This amazing Y7 won, not just out of everyone in his class who entered, but also out of every school in South Yorkshire. We asked his English teacher to comment, who said, "I couldn't believe it when I found out! This could really be the start of something special for Dan—a future career in journalism, perhaps? He's already a really valued member of the *Torch* newspaper. I wasn't at first sure whether we were going to bother to enter the competition in class, so I'm really glad we decided to go for it."

Dan is now one of the 12 people still standing in this competition. What will happen next? Two people from those 12 will be picked as the overall winners of the completion, and if Dan is picked as one of these winners, his prize will jump up to £1,000!

Good luck, Dan!

Library Monitor

By Carys Garner, Year 7

For those of you who don't know, the library is a popular place at Wath Comp. We interviewed Patrick Binns about his duty as library monitor. He said that his jobs were to tidy up the books, patrol the computer area, sign books in and out and help people choose and put back books.

There is also a reading scheme that involves cards. The monitors have to get three stamps for each task to complete them. Once they complete a task, they get a merit, usually handed out by Miss Frith. There are three sections to complete. These are Bronze, Silver and Gold. Patrick has so far completed the Bronze and Silver sections. He still needs to complete a few more tasks to complete the Gold section. Some of the tasks he has to complete are: greet customers, organize and hand out tickets, water the plants, tidy shelves and furniture, patrol the computers and sort out the books alphabetically and Dewey order.

His favourite thing is to help people choose books and help with tasks. His worst thing was picking up

squashed food from the floor.

The library also has a few rules. These include: no eating or drinking, no playing on any games at lunch and break (but you are allowed in the morning and afternoon). You are not allowed to run around. You have to put books back where you found them and talk quietly.

If you would like to be a monitor, contact the library.

Alan Rickman

By Emily Aston, Year 7
and Mya Taylor, Year 9

Alan Rickman, a well-known actor and director, has passed away on 14 January 2016 at the age of 69. After a long battle with cancer, he died in hospital surrounded by his family and friends in a London hospital. He was known for playing a range of roles on stage and screen such as Severus Snape in the *Harry Potter* films and Hans Gruber in *Die Hard*. He often played more complex antagonists. Not only did he appear in films, but he was a stage performer at the Royal Shakespeare Company where he was nominated for a Tony Award for the role of Vicomte de Valmont in the play *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* in 1985. The news of his loss to cancer has saddened the nation and I'm sure that he will be remembered for years to come.

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R.I.P

Alan Sidney Patrick Rickman (1946-2016)

"I want to swim in both directions at once. Desire success, court failure."

-Alan Rickman

Beyond the School Gates:

Technically, Famous: Media Studies Visit to London

By Natalie Higgins, Year 13



On 4th-5th November, I and fellow A Level Media Studies students travelled down to Central London for a host of media related activities, including the London Film Museum, BBC Broadcasting House, the BBFC and the MediaMagazine Student Conference (as well as a bit of shopping on Oxford Street).

After the two hour train journey, we dropped our luggage off at the hotel and made our way to the London Film Museum where the current exhibition, 'Bond in Motion', focuses on the cars in the 007 films. As we were walking down the street, we could hear the theme tune gradually increasing in volume, meaning that pretty much the whole group started singing along – it's fair to say we got a few funny looks for that. Once we entered under the giant helicopter hanging from the ceiling, we were let loose to roam through the museum. One of the most interesting things to see were the actual storyboards created for various films – the amount of detail put into every image on the storyboards was amazing. Further on in the museum was a display where you could have a photo taken wearing the top half of a tuxedo. We took this upon ourselves to get a group shot with Mr Bishop.

Next, we made our way to the BBFC – the British Board of Film Classification for those who don't know. On the way, we bumped into Mr Bishop's twin. Literally. He works in an office adjacent to the BBFC's building. When everyone tried to take a photo, the Mr Bishops (plural)

pulled the typical "What on earth are you doing" Mr Bishop Face, which everyone found hilarious and slightly odd at the same time. Back to the BBFC, anyway: it's fair to say, most of us did not expect it to be as interesting and enjoyable as it turned out to be. The host was very energetic and clearly cared a lot about the film industry. She spoke to us about how films are given age certificates because of their content and was able to show us some unseen, cut footage from *The Hunger Games* and other blockbusters.

After this, we made our way through to BBC Broadcasting House, where we had a tour of the building. We saw BBC News at Six being prepared as well as rehearsals for *The One Show*. Further on in the tour, we were taken to a camera suite where Lewis and I were chosen to read a news article in front of the cameras and Izzy did a weather report – which mainly consisted of her laughing at herself in the camera.



The following morning, we were up bright and early to go to the MediaMagazine Student Conference, along with 900 other media students from around the country. The conference consisted of speakers offering insights into different forms of media such as the Internet, film and television. A film director gave us information about the "dos and don'ts" of the film industry, such as "don't record a film with fake knives without informing the police or constituency because you will get arrested" – this happened to one of his friends. We also saw the editor of MediaMagazine interview the scriptwriter for the BBC Three drama *Murdered by My Boyfriend*. She posed questions about her casting choices, and the

Trips Out and About

interview process of particular families to feature in the programme – although, due to technical difficulties, only one microphone was working and they had to kind of “pass the parcel” to one another. Everyone was chuckling when she snatched the microphone from her at one point.

On the whole, the visit was very rewarding, not only because it offered plenty of knowledge and information to feature in our exams this summer, but it was also a really exciting trip – come on, how many people can say they saw Matt Baker and Alex Jones from *The One Show*?

Year 10 Tesco bakery experience

By Kian Elsworth and Joe Dayson, Year 10



As part of our food technology course, our teacher Mrs Morley organised for us to visit Tesco bakery department in Wath to see industrial baking in action.

We were able to see large quantities of bread dough being mixed in large mixers and watched rolls being shaped along a conveyor belt.



In addition, we were challenged to design and make our own Christmas shaped bread. We had just forty-five minutes to create our design and then we left it to prove, before it was baked in the industrial ovens.

This trip was very interesting and useful because we learnt about industrial food manufacturing.

A big thanks should go to Mrs Morley for organising it.

Munich Trip

By Jemma Smith, Year 11

In October, we went on a study visit to Munich. The point of the visit was to extend our understanding of different topics on the GCSE History course.

We were taken on a walking tour where the guide told us about the rise of National Socialism in Bavaria and about the story of Sophie Scholl, whose was part of the White Rose resistance movement. We also took the train to Dachau, where we were exposed to the horrors of the Holocaust and to Nuremburg, where we saw the Nazi rally grounds.

As well as this, we also soaked up Bavarian culture in the Hofbrauhaus by trying new foods, navigating the public transport system and by going bowling.

We all learned a lot, had a lot of fun and, importantly, will never forget that 1923 was a crisis year!



Politics and Current Affairs:

ASUS's HoloLens style headset

By Ethan Corbett, Year 7

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Last month ASUS teased us on the idea of an augmented reality (AR) headset sometime in 2016. It isn't fully immersive like virtual reality (VR where you see only the screen.) but instead uses the glasses on it to insert simulated objects into the real world. It will cost around £3,000 (honestly, I think this is overpriced). They have shown off the headset in really good demos.

Are they psychic ... who knows?

By Savanna Davies, Year 7

Most animals seem to have an instinct to sense natural disasters. Animals such as dogs have been reported, weeks before natural disasters, to have bitten or barked vigorously, and scientists think these animals are warning us of pending danger. Other animals hide—even in zoos, animals such as elephants would hide in their enclosures, not willing to step a foot outside, seeming scared all of a sudden because of nothing (though it is possible they've been scared of something coincidentally at the same time). We don't know whether this is true; what do you think?

Healthy Weight for Kids?

Be a Proactive Parent

Hannah Stokes, Year 8

While genetics does play an important role in what your child's weight could be, the environment in which they are raised will have just as powerful of an effect. Parents must model healthy eating and activity patterns and must establish the same in their children. Preventing overweight will be easier and healthier than trying to

help your child lose weight.

Also, it is good to watch over your children whenever they get something to eat or anything just to make sure they eat the right food so they cannot put any more weight on.

The Flash Series

By Molly Hammerton, Year 8

Inspired by the characters of DC Comics, *The Flash* is an amazing series, an action packed TV phenomenon that has captured its observers' imagination and hearts with its loveable characters and amazing settings, it's hard not to enjoy!

We follow the story of Barry Allen (portrayed by Grant Gustin who played in Glee), a forensic scientist that works for the CCPD (Central City Police Department) who also has a tragic past, as his mother was murdered by something impossible. Later on, a particle accelerator explosion affects him by turning him into.... The Flash. As a new meta-human, he works with his friends at S.T.A.R. Labs, using his speed to fight crime and find others affected by the blast.

The series is full of laughs, suspense and awkwardness as Barry tries to live as both The Flash and himself. It is a must watch for comics fans and its counterpart Arrow, is also a must.

Washed Up Whales

Lucy Robinson, Year 10

Following the four whales washed up in Skegness and Hunstanton, a fifth has been found at Wainfleet, Lincolnshire.

People have been advised to stay away from the whales, after the fifth was discovered on the site of a former bombing range. The whales have been cordoned off to prevent the crowds of people from interacting with them.

The five whales are thought to be related and from the same pod, which was spotted off the Norfolk coast.

Wath Students Speak Out

The bodies are left to rot naturally, buried, or taken to landfill sites to be disposed of.

Zodiac Truth

By Mia Hollingsworth-Smith, Year 9

Libra, Virgo, Pisces, Sagittarius, Cancer... these are a few of the zodiac signs, a constellation of stars that lie along the annual path of the sun, depicting our personalities, love, fortune and even define us to the extent of favourite food and T.V shows (well, according to social media anyway!). However, what if you aren't the well balanced Libra you were always taught to believe...

The dates of the star signs were secured over 2,000 years ago, when the zodiac was first devised, with zodiac dates corresponding to when the sun passes through each constellation. The astronomy behind your star sign sounds pretty accurate, right? It turns out that a closer examination of the motion of the Earth, the sun, and the stars shows the Zodiac is more complex than you might imagine and reveal your TRUE star sign.

So why are our signs not what we perceived them to be? The reason lies in a phenomenon known as precession in which Earth continually wobbles around its axis in a 25,800-year cycle. This wobble caused by the gravitational attraction of the Moon on Earth's equatorial bulge. This means that the signs have slipped one-tenth—or almost one whole month—of the way around the sky to the west, relative to the stars beyond.

Newly Discovered Solar System

By Nemesha Nelson, Year 10

Astronomers have recently discovered the largest known solar system, containing a massive planet between 12 and 15 times the mass of Jupiter that orbits its star at a distance of one trillion kilometres.

Both the planet and the star were discovered separately, but due to the insane distance between the two, they were not linked until recently, when it was discovered that the planet is in fact in orbit and not rogue, like it was previously thought.

It takes the planet, which has a surprisingly low density, up to one million years to complete one orbit, which is 140 times wider than Pluto's path around our Sun.

This solar system is three times the size of the second-biggest planet-star pair, and is about 100 light years from earth.

Cumbria flooding

By Emily Balais , Year 8

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In Cumbria, the rain has been just getting worse which has caused severe flooding. This awful rain happened by heavy rain on Monday 7th December 2015.

The government have agreed to pay £50,000,000 for Storm Desmond. Jeremy Corbyn has hailed the emergency services and the community spirit as he visited flooded-out homeowners and businesses in Cumbria.

The Labour leader was given a warm welcome from locals who thanked him for visiting as he spent more than an hour going from shop to shop on the high street in Cockerham.

Normally busy with tourists, the street is now lined with skips and builders' vans, with fridges, sandbags, printers and shop fittings piled up on the pavement.

Mr Corbyn said better flood defences were needed, but global warming and cuts to emergency services also needed to be looked at.

Valentine's Day Special:

By Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith, Year 9

Conflict is a mundane part of everyday life – unless you're the only person, ever, who agrees on everything, it's extremely likely that you've been in a disagreement before. Conflicts naturally occur wherever people are thrown together: in school, work, home, big cities and small towns and whole countries! Conflicts are unavoidable – but why?

To begin to understand any conflict, you need to start with the source – what the people, groups, or countries are fighting over. Which can cause some ambiguity as sources aren't always what they initially seem to be and there can be multiple sources. However, a lot of conflicts often start for the same reasons; at their core, all conflicts are about people getting in the way of something someone else wants or needs.

Globally, some conflicts are caused by conflict resources – natural resources that can make a country rich (such as oil, diamonds and gold) or vital ones (like wood, water, and food). These can evoke a myriad of problems; conflicts about who owns or controls the land where the resource is found, getting or keeping access to resources, sharing the resources or who gets the money to be made from selling resources.

However it's not the resources that cause the problem; it's the people.

THE TORCH Journalists

This edition was produced by Daniel Nutley, Carys Garner, Emily Aston, Lucy Redfern, Olivia Storey, Savanna Davies, Lauren Clack, Ellie Berridge, Ethan Corbett, Lauren Williams, Callam Manton, Lewis Dockray, Hannah Stokes, Emily Balaiss, Aaron Duce, Molly Hammerton, Eve Spurr, Mya Taylor, Nemesha Nelson, Lucy Robinson, Lauren Hollingsworth-Smith, Mia Hollingsworth-Smith, Shannon Hopwood, Charles Lord, Luke Stanley and Miss Taylor. Thanks also to Natalie Higgins, Rhiannon Hopwood, Tilly Levin, Phoebe Key, **Kian and Joe**, Jemma Smith, Miss Kelly, 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.

Too often, groups of people are divided into the *haves*: those who have a lot of resources, wealth and power, and the *have-nots*: those who don't. An idea called conflict theory says that there will always be conflict between the *haves* and the *have-nots* because there is a limited amount of wealth and power and resources – the *haves* want to keep it and the *have-nots* want more of it so there is constant competition.

Conflicts worldwide can be comparable to ones in the playground – they both tend to be power struggles; whether the power is in the form of popularity or wealth, the amount of it a country or person has affects how they handle conflicts.

Have you ever felt under pressure to befriend someone who you don't really like? Or shied away from hanging out with someone because everyone else thinks they're weird and you're scared they'll all think you're weird too? Countries can influence friendships in the same way: less powerful countries will not be likely to let a conflict with a powerful country get out of hand – they'll try to find a peaceful resolution because they know they are not likely to win a war. Likewise, in a school the most popular kids will have the most power so many others will want to befriend them in hope that some of their popularity will rub off. At the very least, everyone will want to stay on their good side.

The phrase "power corrupts" is definitely true. In a dictatorship, a government will strive to keep its power, and in schools, bullies will intimidate others to keep their power; both scenarios will have an outcome of people being scared to intervene, which makes them especially hard to stop.

Another reason conflicts can arise is because of "groups". A group is a part of our identity – they can be our nationality, school, religion, friendship circle or even stereotype. Sometimes, people knowingly fall into a group, for example joining a sports team. Others times, people can obliviously fall into a group, because of things they like or dislike.

Forming groups is part of human nature – psychologists believe we will form groups based on just about

Why do we fight?

anything; we have a need to be part of a group, regardless of what that group is. Since we define ourselves by our group, our group's status reflects on us. When our group succeeds, we feel better about ourselves and will want our group to come out on top, regardless of the situation.

Although feeling good about groups is a positive thing, they are often the source of discrimination and conflicts. When groups start to focus on their differences it can lead to "us" and "them" thinking, which can turn into mistrust, stereotyping, prejudice, and even hatred. This kind of thinking can often lead to intractable conflicts as the groups involved are unlikely to listen to each other and negotiate a peaceful solution, because of their stereotypes.

An example of this is the First World War. One of the causes of WW1 was the alliance system – countries who'd teamed up to create the Triple Alliance and Triple Entente: groups. They were directly opposed to each other and (courtesy of a lot of propaganda) had a negative image of each other, so weren't prepared to negotiate a non-violent solution, resulting in a prolonged, intractable war.



The same principle applies to some feuds between circles, in which one group of friends will go against another, and because of stereotyping and prejudice, be reluctant to listen to the other sides' perspective and reasoning.

When the "us and them" style of thinking is taken to an extreme, the results can be catastrophic: it can cause religious extremism and it can even make people to

disregard others as human beings and cause genocide!

However, these situations can be avoided if you change your way of thinking. If you're willing to approach things with an open mind, see past the stereotypes, be open to compromise and have the courage to stand up to those who don't want to negotiate, you can be a peace maker.

Trying to decipher what makes a conflict is near to impossible – there are countless aspects and causes for each individual conflict, and even people who spend years studying conflicts can't always agree on their causes and what could be done to settle them. In my opinion these are just the basic building blocks of what causes a conflict.

If you are affect by any of the issues in this article, you can write to our agony aunt or seek help from a member of the resolve team.

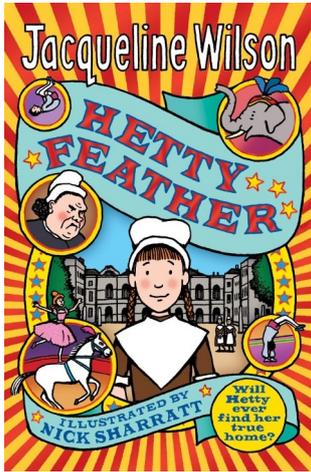
Valentine's Day Word Search

Can you find all the words? Bring a completed word search to Miss Taylor to receive an e-Praise point.

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

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| BOYFRIEND | HAPPINESS |
| CHOCOLATES | HEART |
| CUPID | LOVE |
| FLOWERS | PRESENTS |
| GIRLFRIEND | ROMANCE |

Books of the Month



Hetty Feather

Reviewed by Lauren Clack,
Year 7

(caution: contains spoilers)

I have recently started reading the first book of the *Hetty Feather* series. I have found it very interesting and couldn't put it down.

This series is about a young foundling girl named Hetty Feather. She is quite confused because she has not known anything about her family tree whatsoever. While she was very young, she was brought up with six other children, three of which are also foundlings. However, the other three are real biological children of their foster mother. She is promised love by one of the biological children but later on finds out that it is all a lie.

When she returns to the foundling hospital at the age of five, she becomes extremely confused. With a mixture of loss and confusion, she finds her mother at the end of the book.

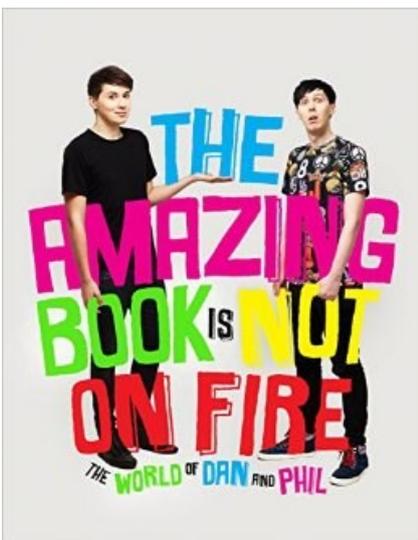
In my opinion, I think this is a five-star book and it deserves to be.

I can't wait to start the next one (*Sapphire Battersea*) so keep your eyes peeled for another review from me.

The Amazing Book Is Not On Fire

Reviewed by Olivia Storey, Year 7

This book is amazing. I have recently bought it and I read the book in the space of two days because it was so good. My favourite page is the 'Which Chair Are You?' quiz. It tells you all of the different colour chairs that they have got. I rate this book 5 STARS.



Creative Zone:

This month, students were asked to get into the romance something, or someone, they love.

Imagine

By Ellie Berridge, Year 7

When I imagine I think of you
My perfect blossom
The shade of blue
All perfect in many different ways

When I imagine
Once again I see
The blossom about to end
When my true love's colour is finally gone
I'll say goodbye and see you soon.

Valentine's Day

By Emily Balais, Year 8

Valentine's Day is here at last,
People are trying not to focus on their past,
Love is in the air,
And people are trying to get into a pair,
Romance is going on,
People are writing to and from,
On a magical day like this,
Anything can happen.

What is Love?

By Rhiannon Hopwood, Year 7

Love is a beautiful thing
Only some people find love
Valentine's Day is the day to give your true love a present
Everyone can find love if they try

Valentine Verses

entic spirit by writing a Valentine Verse: a poem about

Artistic Struggle

By Carys Garner, Year 7

Can't be bothered, I don't know where to start,
The glaring blank page is terrifying.
I want to grab the sheet – tear it apart!
But I know I need to keep on trying.
Putting pencil to paper is so hard.
How will it work out? What if it goes wrong?
This bad experience could leave me scarred.
The suspense of starting seems far too long!
Then I begin; creativity flows...
First things first, I doodle a simple shape.
The lines merge together, the picture grows,
I lose myself; it's a way to escape.
I come to the end – it leaves me reeling
With joy, achievement; it's a great feeling!

Henri the Hound Dog

By Olivia Bradshaw, Year 7

He gnashes his jaws at whatever he sees,
Tracking the scents on the walk,
Any sound would echo with a breeze,
Sharp claws caught the end of the skin,
The non-stop barking is repetitively annoying,
My patience is wearing thin,
His dirty fur is over everything,
When he's been for a walk, he is content,
Silky ears are like aeroplane wings,
Eyes crystallise as the moon went,
He is one of my few favourite things,
His faith to me soon wears out,
He's back to bad without a doubt!

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You are my man

By Tilly Levin and Phoebe Key, Year 7

Love only some can imagine,
Only whom with thine heart can.
Violets are blue and roses are red,
Every day I think: you are my man!

Sonnet

By Anonymous

Three words there are I'll never say to you,
Though for so long I've imagined the day
Where I would let you know in any way
And see that little smile... what can I do?
You stole my heart with your so gentle song,
But you don't sing for me; I'm a flicker
Of smoke, lost in a moment; no, quicker,
Insubstantial, never there all along.
Now, leaving you forever, heartbroken
And helpless I tread; with a paining heart,
I force myself to type, and this written,
I can but leave it — flimsy parting art,
Simply not enough; three words unspoken
I'll never say, because we're worlds apart.

Next month's theme will be:

Easter Epigram

**Write an epigram (a brief, funny
and memorable poem) about
Easter.**

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

Deadline: Thursday 11th March.



Star Wars Fever:

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Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Molly Hammerton, Year 8

The Star Wars franchise continues with the new and exciting *The Force Awakens*. Fans of the originals will be ecstatic to see the return of the Millennium Falcon, X-Wings and TIE fighters, showing that the old ways are not forgotten. With new characters to love and old characters to look forward to seeing again, J.J. Abrams has given us a real treat.

The film greets us with a new character, Poe, and his droid, BB-8, on the planet Jakku fleeing from the Stormtroopers and the new bad guy, Kylo Ren (portrayed by Adam Driver). But when ordered to execute the village, a trooper, FN-2187, refuses to kill anyone, and starts to want to escape and join the revolution. His master captured by the Empire, BB-8 travels across Jakku's deserts until he finds Rey, a Junker who takes him in and cares for him, refusing to give him up for food.

Overall, the film is a thrilling adventure with characters many of us will relate to. Secrets and losses of favourite characters leave us in suspense for the rest of the film. But the main question is, which side will you be on?

Mixing the old with the new: the Millennium Falcon is back, with familiar faces like Han Solo (Harrison Ford) and Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher), along with a superb cast of new actors.

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Review and More



Skellig Wars

By Daniel Nutley, Year 7

You have probably heard of the brand new Star Wars *The Force Awakens* film but have you heard of the remote island of Skellig that the last scene was filmed on? No, didn't think so, that is because it is a little known island of the coast of Ireland.

However, maybe filming the new film there wasn't the best option for the landscape of this amazing island. This tiny beautiful island is a UNESCO world

heritage site which means it is protected as a part of keeping this rare kind of island intact and looking nice. As a result of the filming that took place there, it has destroyed part of the environment. For example, when a helicopter came to land on the island, it swooped some little chicks off the edge of the beach into the sea.

On the other hand, this island that used to be not known at all and now is attracting hundreds of tourists a week. This has led to rules being put in place of how many people can visit the island a day. Lots of self-proclaimed Star Wars "geeks" visit the island to get photos where the dramatic last scene was shot.

Top Five Star Wars Characters

By Lewis Dockray, Year 8

5. Kylo Ren

Let's just say the new Star Wars film, *The Force Awakens*, was **amazing** and one amazing thing that came with the film is the new antagonist — Leia and Han's son, the one and only, Kylo Ren. Played by Adam Driver, this guy is spectacular!

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2. Darth Vader

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"I am your father." He was the main antagonist in the original Star Wars trilogy and was amazing at it, joining the dark side as Anakin Skywalker in the prequels. But one person is better...

4. R2-D2

"Beep boop beep," is all he says: thank goodness for C-3PO and his translation skills. He was played by Frank Oz in the first six Star Wars films, but not in the new one!

3. BB-8

Also a newcomer to the franchise, this super cute rolling bleeping beach ball can actually pack a punch — well, if he had arms. I admire his determination to find his owner.

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1. Luke Skywalker

He was the main hero in the original trilogy along with Han and Leia. He was played by Mark Hamill and appeared in the new film for an amazing six seconds and with no lines what so ever! He was, however, the best in the originals, making him so high on this list.

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Sport and Music



Rotherham's Transfer Window

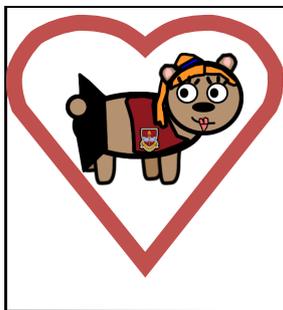
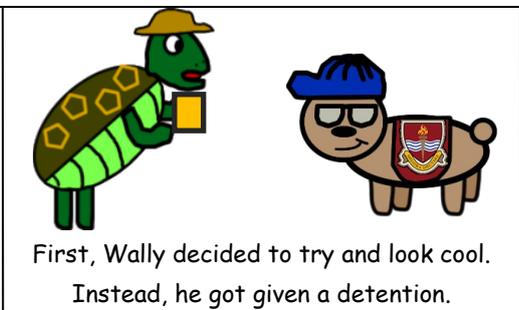
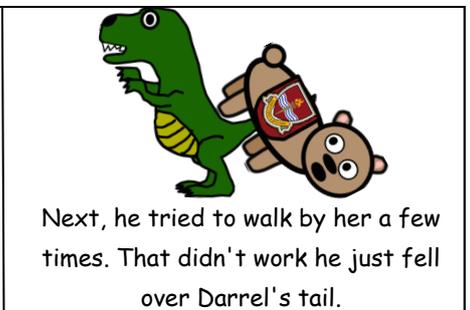
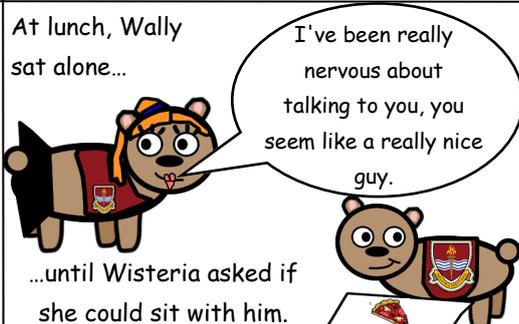
By Charles Lord, Year 13

Of the local clubs, perhaps the busiest during the transfer window have been Rotherham United. Since January 1st, Rotherham have made additions in every position as Neil Redfearn prepares his squad for their relegation scrap. At the back, Rotherham have signed Alex Cairns, following his release from Chesterfield with Adam Collin departing to Aberdeen on loan in order to get first-team football; something he was unable to achieve at the New York Stadium. At the opposite end of the park, familiar face Luciano Becchio has come in until the end of the season as a household name, joining Leon Best with Redfearn preferring experience up top alongside the young talent of Jonson Clarke-Harris and Danny Ward. Moving into midfield, despite speculation from London suggesting otherwise, a welcome addition to the Millers squad has been the apparent extension of Grant Ward's loan; comforting as Ward has thrived in recent weeks. Also joining him in midfield are 2 more loanees in Andrew Shinnie and Chris Burke, who have signed from Birmingham and Nottingham Forrest respectively and former Leeds youth prospect Chris Dawson. Dawson appears to be a long-term solution as he is on an 18-month contract and has faced injury lately,



signalling Redfearn's continued desire to invest in the future. Finally, in defence, Rotherham have been bolstered by the capture of Manchester City under 21 star, Shay Facey. Facey has looked solid in recent weeks and has filled a position the Millers have struggled with this season as a result of Lewis Buxton's contract dispute, Frazer Richardson's lack of playing time and Stephen Kelly's injury record. Aimen Belaid makes up Rotherham's January signings with the Tunisian international offering much needed central-defensive cover. With regards to the other outgoings, Jordan Bowery has been released and snapped up by Oxford, where he scored minutes into his debut, and Aidy White has sealed a permanent move to Barnsley after his January release.

Overall, Rotherham look significantly stronger than the team that faced Preston at the start of the month and look more likely to stay up now than they did following defeat against Huddersfield mid-December. January has allowed Redfearn to restructure, which will make his job in the summer easier as he knows the squad he wants to keep and the team finally looks like it has a solid core, topped up by numerous creative additions.

 <p>Wally couldn't believe how beautiful Wisteria was. If he wanted to get her attention, he'd have to do something cool.</p>	 <p>First, Wally decided to try and look cool. Instead, he got given a detention.</p>	 <p>Next, he tried to walk by her a few times. That didn't work he just fell over Darrel's tail.</p>
<p>He didn't know what else to do. He decided to give up.</p> 	<p>At lunch, Wally sat alone...</p>  <p>I've been really nervous about talking to you, you seem like a really nice guy.</p> <p>...until Wisteria asked if she could sit with him.</p>	 <p>With Valentine's Day just days away, will Wally find happiness or will it end in tears?</p>