

The Magazine of Wath Academy

Vol. 102 No. 6
Jul/Aug 2025

Torch

Academy Awards

A spectacular return to Sheffield City Hall



Wath
Academy

Torch

Volume 102 Number 6
July/August 2025

wathacademy.com/torch



Torch is Wath Academy's student-produced magazine, published every half term

You can contribute to *Torch* by attending the after-school club on Tuesdays at 2:50 pm in G20 or by emailing articles to torch@wathacademy.com

Cover image:
Adam Galliford Photography

Published by Wath Academy,
Sandygate, Wath-upon-Deerne,
Rotherham, S63 7NW

Wath Academy is part of
Maltby Learning Trust



**Wath
Academy**

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18–19

HOUSE UPDATE



As we approach the end of the term, the House team would like to express thanks to all students and staff that have participated in house events this year and contributed to making great memories, a culture of teamwork and your donations to charitable efforts.

In the Games Cup, Troy currently leads with a combined total of 44.5 points, followed by Rome with 38. Carthage and Athens are third and fourth, with Thebes and Sparta trailing but not out of the game just yet.

With Sports Day scheduled for the final week, the rankings could still shift dramatically.

Recent event winners have added serious fuel to the fire.

Troy has impressed with back-to-back victories in events like Disney Anagrams, and both staff and student Spot the Ball.

Mr Shaw will be pleased with Rome's domination of the quiz scene.

Thebes made their mark in the physical contests, especially in the Sixth Form Three-Legged Race and a last-second winner in the Crossbar Challenge.

Carthage also scored a valuable win in Year 7–8 Rounders, showing there's still fight in every House.

In the Staff Cup, Rome currently holds the lead, with Troy and Athens close behind.

The staff have been going head-to-head in paper challenges and quizzes, with Rome clinching several recent wins.

But it's not over yet. Sports Day in the final week is not only the last major event of the term, it's a game-changer.

A strong showing could help Rome cement the top spot. And even for houses that may no longer be in the running for the Games Cup, Sports Day comes with its own trophy and major bragging rights.

The day itself is set to be a great showing of resilience, determination and teamwork and the weather is forecast to be on our side, if not slightly on the warmer side.

The final whistle hasn't blown yet and we will see on the last day which house is proclaimed victorious and goes into next year with silverware and an unforgettable theme park trip.

Get ready everyone and bring your A-game!

Mr Brown • Head of Thebes



YEAR 6 TRANSITION TIPS

Are you a Year 6 student transitioning to Wath Academy in September? Then read these helpful tips from a current Year 7 student.

As our current school year comes to an end, a new one begins. 330 of you will be moving to Wath Academy, and here are some tips coming from a Year 7!

How to Find Your Way

Secondary and primary schools are very different. In primary school, you stay in the same class all day, and have the same teacher, and most likely a teaching assistant; however, in secondary school, you move between each lesson, and have a different teacher for every lesson.

At Wath, there is Ground (G), First (F) and Second (S) floors. Do not get confused – the bottom floor is Ground floor, not First floor. Each room has the floor and number on (for example, G20) and you can follow the corridors, you will easily find your classroom – and don't worry, for the first

few weeks, teachers are more lenient on being late.

How to Make Friends

Within Year 7, there will be around 330 children, and everyone is in a different situation. You may have gone to a feeder primary school, like Brampton Ellis or Wath Central; however, some kids will have gone to a primary with only a few people.

Just be yourself, and be social – everyone will be nervous, so even if you are nervous, maybe try step out of your comfort zone. Remember, you don't have to stick with your primary friends. There are 330 people and you might know 30 people, or less. That means there are still 300 people to meet, so go make friends!

Poppy G • Year 7

YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK

Year 7 visit creatures at YWP near Doncaster.

On Thursday 10th July we took 140 very excited Year 7 students to Yorkshire Wildlife Park for what turned out to be a fantastic day of exploration, learning and (thankfully) sunshine!

From the moment we arrived, the students were buzzing with enthusiasm as we made our way through the different animal habitats. Highlights included the polar bears, who impressed everyone with their size and power, and the lions, who basked in the sun while being thoroughly admired. The lemur walkthrough proved especially

popular – although I think the lemurs enjoyed watching us just as much as we enjoyed watching them!

Throughout the day, our students were a credit to the school – polite, curious, and full of enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see so many of them bonding, laughing, and making memories outside the classroom. A big thank you to all the staff who helped make the trip such a success, and to Year 7 for making it such an enjoyable day.

Mr Shaw • *Teacher of Science*



YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK

On a flawless sunny morning, students from Year 9 set off on an exciting trip to the world-renowned Yorkshire Sculpture Park, and what followed was a day filled with inspiration, creativity, and fresh air.

From the moment we arrived, it was clear we were in for something special. The park, stretching over 500 acres of breathtaking countryside, was bathed in golden sunlight – a rare treat in Yorkshire! Students immediately got involved, showing fantastic engagement as they explored the open-air galleries and stunning landscapes.

One of the standout highlights of the day was the exhibition by William Kentridge, a South African artist celebrated for his thought-provoking multimedia work. His powerful pieces, which blend drawing, film, and sculpture, captivated the group. Many students were drawn to Kentridge's use of shadow and movement, and several commented on how his work brought history and politics to life in a unique and deeply personal way.

Between gallery visits, the group enjoyed long, scenic walks through the park's woodland paths and sculpture-filled fields. Works by artists like Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore and Ai Weiwei appeared around every corner, sparking lively discussions and plenty of sketching and photography.

Whether it was admiring monumental sculptures, engaging with Kentridge's impactful pieces, or simply enjoying the sunshine with friends, the day was nothing short of perfect.

As one student put it: "A creative experience I will never forget." And it's safe to say everyone came away feeling inspired and a little sun-kissed.

We couldn't have asked for better weather, better art, or better company – the Yorkshire Sculpture Park gave us a perfect day to remember.

Mr Tipping • Subject Leader 3D Art, Design and Photography





Year 13 Summer Ball

A celebration for Wath's departing sixth formers.

On Friday 4th July, our Year 13 students and staff from Wath Academy were lucky enough to have their Summer Ball at Tapton Hall.

All students were looked spectacular as they arrived, posing for photos in the grand entrance and stairwell, before sitting down to a delicious three-course meal.

Awards for the evening were presented for 'Best Dressed' and 'The Next Prime Minister', along with several other categories, all voted for by the students. Following on from the formalities, students

then danced the night away with the disco blaring out!

It was a wonderful evening, and one that students, I am sure, will look back on with fondness, as yet another positive memory created from their time at Wath Academy Sixth Form.

Thank you to all students who attended and staff who came to share the evening. Finally, a huge 'good luck' to all our Year 13 students in the next chapter of their lives!

Mr Barlow • Assistant Head of Sixth Form

Year 11 Prom

The Class of 2025 see out the year in style.

A good time was had by all 210 attendees of the Year 11 prom held at Wentworth Woodhouse in June.

As always, students dressed to impress and most managed to make elaborate entrances including various supercars, motorbikes and limousines, with hundreds of parents and family members watching on.

Wentworth Woodhouse, once the largest private residence in the UK, is always the perfect place for our students to end their time Wath and this was no exception.

Our Year 11 students enjoyed their evening and, as expected, their behaviour was impeccable.

We wish all our students moving on to pastures new the very best of luck for their future. A wonderful end to a wonderful time at Wath Academy.

Mr Lines • Director of Year 11,
Pastoral and Intervention





Prom Award Winners 2025

- Prom Queen**Melissa M
- Prom King** Darron O
- Best Dressed** Libby W
- Jonny F
- Most Inspiring** Olivia S
- Most Improved** Lexie W
- Top Joker** Charlie W

Academy Awards

The fourth edition of the Wath Academy Awards.

On 7th July, the students of Wath Academy made their way to Sheffield City Hall to attend the Academy Awards. These awards have become prestigious within our community and allow the school to celebrate the hard-working students whose efforts have not gone unseen. These awards were handed out for a number of reasons, varying between subject, attendance, key driver, house and Principal's awards.

Throughout the evening, there were 12 performance acts, ranging from a rap special to a comedy skit, showcasing the talents our students have to offer.

Throughout the evening, applause echoed throughout the hall, reflecting the appreciation the school had for its talented performers, celebrating school spirit between the sets of awards many students were entitled to be given.

Many members of staff were involved in the evening, with the senior staff hosting the events and handing out the awards and the Faculty of Performing Arts running the event, ensuring that the acts were appearing efficiently and running the technology alongside the IT staff.

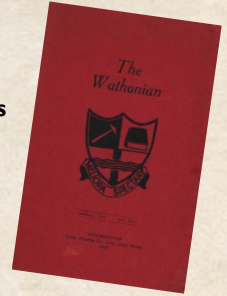
Ruby R • Year 12





From the Archives

Each edition of *Torch*, we reprint an article from Wath Academy's extensive collection of old school magazines (available online at wathacademy.com/torch). With a school holiday approaching, many readers may be planning trips to other parts of the country. The same was true in 1930s, with this article from the March 1937 edition of *The Wathonian* offering a guide to museums in London. All the museums mentioned except the Royal United Services Museum are still open and all now have free admission.



The London Museums (1937)

“He who is tired of London,” said Dr Johnson, “is tired of life.”

There is no end to the variety of the interests provided by London, but perhaps the most interesting and historical parts of London are the museums. London is the home of seven museums.

The British Museum was opened to the public in 1759. This great treasure house contains priceless collections of antiques, and varied and numerous books.

The London Museum is really a mansion called ‘Lancaster House’. It was once owned by the Duke of Sutherland. This is particularly interesting as it shows the growth of London from a village to a city. In the Royal Room, and the costume gallery can be seen the coronation robes of Queen Victoria, King Edward and King George.

The Victoria and Albert Museum is mainly concerned with art. Very rare examples of mediaeval and modern art, books, prints, drawings and photographs are found here. It was founded in 1852.

For the scientific mind, the Science Museum is particularly attractive. Here we have a collection of old locomotives, scientific apparatus and various mechanical devices. The Aeronautical Section shows the development of aviation from its invention to the present day.

The Imperial War Museum shows a fine collection of ancient and modern warfare in all its phases. Separate departments are devoted to the Army, the Navy, and women’s work during the War. There are some fine paintings and diagrams illustrating the warfare.

The Natural History Museum possesses the finest and most complete natural history specimens in the world. It deals with the smallest insects to the colossal, prehistoric monsters.

The Royal United Services Museum at Whitehall is devoted to national trophies and mementoes. Large models are shown there of the battles of Waterloo and Trafalgar. The model of Trafalgar is on an oak table made of wood from the [warship] Victory.

Joan Cutler

PRIDE MONTH

Pride Month took place in June.

So what is Pride Month all about? Pride Month happens every June and is about celebrating LGBTQ+ people around the world.

Pride Month is celebrated with parades and other events in many cities around the world.

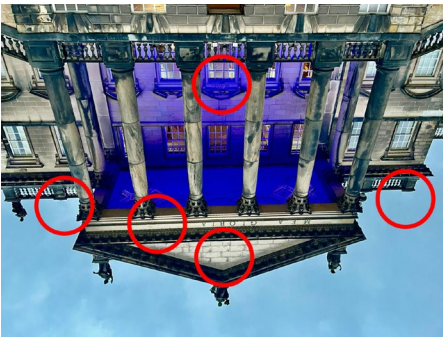
Some laws have changed to make things more equal for LGBTQ+ people.

On 17th July 2013, same-sex marriages were legalised in England and Wales. This meant any lesbian or gay couples were finally allowed to tie the knot from 13th March 2014. Before that, same-sex couples could only enter civil partnerships.

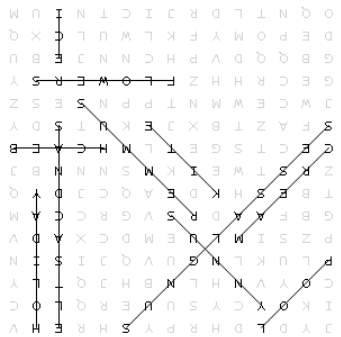


Image: Pride Flag Waving by StockCake

Heidi W • Year 7



Spot the Difference



Summer Words Search

Puzzle Solutions

REVIEW

***How to Train Your Dragon* (in cinemas now)**

How to Train Your Dragon is one of the best live action remakes ever made in the industry.

All aspects of this movie are produced to a great quality, from the CGI of the dragons to the similarities in the storyline.

If you're not familiar with the storyline of *How to Train Your Dragon*, I will explain it now. It is set in the Viking times where dragons are against humans and have many wars.

The main character, Hiccup, befriends a Night Fury dragon and shows the rest of the Vikings that dragons aren't that bad.

Some controversy happened over the casting of Hiccup and Astrid who are played

by Mason Thames, who plays Hiccup, and Nico Parker, who plays Astrid. The controversy started due to Astrid not having blonde hair and blue eyes like the original film; however, in my opinion, the casting does not bother me as the actress did a great job and portrayed her amazingly.

The CGI in this movie was created to a great standard as the dragons look like very realistic. The dragons look like they are real and the detail is flawless and perfect. From the warts poking out the nose to the scaly textures on the skin, the CGI was such good quality.

In my opinion, this movie was a great adaptation. ★★★★★

Savannah B • Year 7



PUZZLES

Solutions on
page 13

Summer Wordsearch

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

BEACH

CREAM

FLOWERS

HOLIDAY

ICE

KITE

POOL

SANDCASTLE

SUMMER

SUNGLASSES

SUNNY

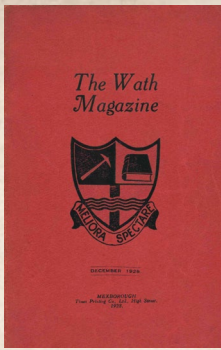
Ruby 1 • Year 7

Spot the Differences

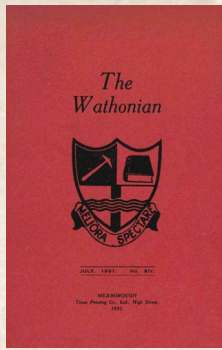
Can you spot the **five** differences between these photos of Wentworth Woodhouse?



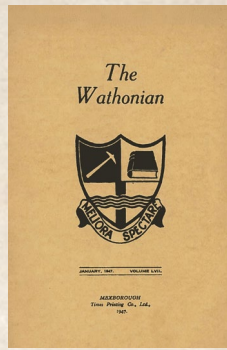
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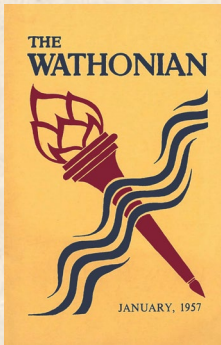
1920s



1930s



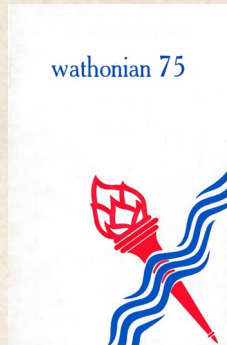
1940s



1950s



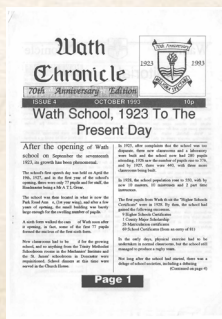
1960s



1970s



1980s



1990s



2000s



2010s



2020s



Today