



# THE TORCH

Volume 93, Issue 2  
November/December 2015  
Able, Active and Qualified  
[www.wcs.rotherham.sch.uk](http://www.wcs.rotherham.sch.uk)

The Student Newspaper of Wath Comprehensive School: A Language College

## A PET IS FOR LIFE, NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS

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By Ceilli Briggs, Year 7

We need to stop abandoning our earth's animals. Think before buying your family member an animal, will they look after the animal and care for it or will they neglect it and possibly kill it? A pet is not just for Christmas, they are for life.

Take Molly, for example: she was abandoned by her owners. She was sitting on her own for weeks until being rescued and taken to a farm where abandoned animals are stockpiled. Molly was bitten by a pit bull and almost died. The vet was about to put her down when she saw that this horse was different so she fought all night to save her and now she is on her way to recovery.

Christmas is one of the worst times for animal abandonment. Recent figures from the RSPCA revealed that, on average, three pets are abandoned every hour over the Christmas period.

The reason for this is simple. People buy these animals as surprise gifts for people who don't really want them, or they don't really realise just how expensive it can be to look after and feed an animal.

So think carefully when you are shopping for your loved ones for Christmas this year. Don't allow those puppy dogs to lead you into a decision that you (and the poor animal) will ultimately regret.

**DON'T ABANDON ANIMALS!**

### Bauble Challenge

THE TORCH bumped into a Christmas tree recently and a few baubles were lodged inside! Can you help us track them down?

Versions of the word 'bauble' have appeared in three 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,

As the end of term approaches, students and staff are very much looking forward to a well deserved Christmas holiday.

The Y11s have just finished their GCSE preliminary examinations and will be given the results at the beginning of next term. Following recent changes to the examination system in England, these examination results will form the basis for many examination entry decisions for our students. Similarly, preliminary examinations will be held for post-16 students in January and the results will inform decisions about the Summer entries.

At the end of November, we held our Presentation Evening for the Y11 students who sat their GCSE examinations last Summer and, as reported in an earlier edition of *The Torch*, achieved excellent results. Many of these students have progressed to our Sixth Form. It was lovely to welcome them together with the students who left us to pursue courses, training or employment elsewhere.

As always, the last two weeks of term have been exceptionally busy. Last week we enjoyed three performances of our pantomime "Robin Hood", offering a slight variation to the more traditional story! The show played to very appreciative audiences. Congratulations to all the students involved in any way (on stage and behind the scenes), to the staff who undertook cameo roles and of course special thanks to Miss Anyon, Miss Bryce, Mr McHale and Mrs Hardwick in the Performing Arts faculty for all their hard work in writing, directing, choreography and producing the show.

On Thursday, we look forward to our annual Christmas Concert, where many of our gifted musicians and singers will have an opportunity to showcase their talents in a full programme of traditional and contemporary music. This is always a very popular and enjoyable evening which for many of us marks the beginning of Christmas.

All tutor groups are currently busy putting the finishing touches to their hampers for our annual Christmas Hamper competition. Once the judging has taken place, the hampers will be distributed to senior citizens living in the areas which the school serves and also to a few residential centres. With the incentive of a prize for the best hamper in each year group and a trophy for the "best in school", staff and students have once again risen to the challenge and the results are amazing; please follow the link on the school website to view some photographs. The results of the judging will be announced in the next edition of *The Torch*.

It is with mixed emotions that I must also inform you that this will be my last year as Headteacher of Wath Comprehensive School as, after twelve years in the role (and almost twenty as a Headteacher), I have made the decision to retire from this fantastic role at the end of this school year. I will miss the school and everybody associated with it very much but am excited by the prospect of new opportunities and of course spending more time with my husband, family and friends. I will, of course, keep you informed of progress in appointing my successor which will begin in January.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of thanking you for your continued support and wish you and yours a very Happy Christmas and a healthy, prosperous New Year.

Please note that the school reopens for staff and students on Monday 4 January.



**AGONY AUNT  
IS ON  
THE MOVE...**



Got a problem? Need advice? Wondering where the box has gone? You can now submit your letters in the library!

Our agony aunt will read your letters and give you advice, whether it be about friendship circles, problems with school work or anything else.

Please post your letters in the box inside the library labelled 'The Torch'. Thank you.

Mrs P Ward  
Headteacher



## News in Brief

### European Day of Languages

In addition to the fantastic Eurovision competition which was covered in *The Torch* last time, many other exciting activities also took place, either on Thursday 24th or Friday 25th September.

There were exciting competitions such as a Super Staff Challenge (won by Mrs Hopkins, Ms Shurdhi and Mrs Hole), where they were challenged to try speaking a foreign language for the day, and a tutor language competition, where tutees have to identify the language of 15 different versions of the word 'hello' (won by 9JK).

The team in Le Rendezvous, our school restaurant, put together a fantastic European-themed lunch on Friday with a delicious variety of food including Spanish tortilla, German sausages, Italian spaghetti Bolognese, Greek moussaka, Swedish meatballs, French croissants and English fish and chips!

There was also a carousel for Y7 students to take part in lots of fun European-themed activities from identifying languages, flags and inventions to building European monuments from straws and newspaper! A great time was had by all involved!

### Christmas Bookmark Competition

The library invited students to design a winter bookmark and there were some brilliant entries. The overall winners were Connor Thompson, and Libby Lister-Thompson, who were awarded prizes. Other entrants were Jack Lowton-Owen, Phoebe Key, Eliza Bailey, Tyler Moore, Kirsten Wiles and Abbie Lewis. Everyone who entered a design was awarded a merit and as the designs were so good we decided to print them all onto bookmarks which are available in the library.



### Year 12 English Language Conference

On Friday, 11th December, Year 12 students studying A Level English Language attended a conference at Sheffield Hallam University. The conference – targeted at the new, more challenging, AQA A Level specification – enhanced students' understanding of textual analysis, sociolects, national/regional varieties of English and attitudes to language diversity through presentations delivered by nationally-recognised experts in linguistics.

## Right Care, First Time

Health services across Rotherham, including GP practices, A&E and the Walk-In Centre, are currently experiencing extreme pressure. Patients are being urged to choose the right care for their symptoms and help health services to help those most in need as health services go through an extremely busy time.

Health services should be accessed in the following order, when people feel ill:

1. **Self-Care** – looking after yourself by keeping a well-stocked medicine cabinet is often the best way to get better quickly and deal with day-to-day illnesses.
2. **Pharmacy (chemist)** – for expert advice on common illnesses and the best medicines to treat them.
3. **Ring NHS 111** – 24 hour helpline health enquiry and advice
4. **GP (doctor)** – for illnesses that just don't go away, arrange to see your local doctor.

An essential medicine cabinet should include:

- Pain relief such as paracetamol and aspirin (aspirin should not be given to children under 16 or to people with asthma)
- Children's paracetamol oral suspension and ibuprofen syrups – free from pharmacy if you receive free prescriptions
- Mild laxatives to relieve constipation
- Cold relief products
- Rehydration mixtures for diarrhoea or vomiting to use after a bout of sickness or diarrhoea
- Indigestion remedy
- Travel sickness tablets for family trips
- A thermometer to check for fever
- A range of plasters, non-absorbent dressings, and elastic bandages for sprains and bruises

With prescribed medicines and those bought over-the-counter follow the advice of the pharmacist, doctor or nurse. You should always read the instructions and never go over the suggested dose.

To find your nearest pharmacy taking part in the Pharmacy First scheme visit <http://www.rotherhamccg.nhs.uk/pharmacy-first.htm>

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# Latest Happenings from

## Sweet Smell of Science Success

By Charles Lord (Year 12), Savanna Davies (Year 7) and Christian Cooper (Year 11)

Thursdays after school have been a little different for a select group of Year 7 and 8 pupils recently... while most people were walking home or getting the bus, several science classrooms played host to the 'Perfume Project'.

Over the past eight weeks, their challenge was to produce a perfume, with packaging, to be presented to the school's "dragons". This was an exciting enterprise experience, perfectly mixing science and social skills, that *The Torch* decided to get a sniff of.

On entering the lab, it was clear to see the passion and enthusiasm on display and you could immediately tell that this was a group of staff and pupils truly engrossed and thoroughly enjoying themselves. The aim of the project, a cross-curricular collaboration between several departments, was to harness the passion displayed by these pupils and ensure their drive for science, art and technology was not lost as they began to settle into the school.

So what were they actually doing? This simple question, which we asked each group, provided us with several very different answers. While expecting a simple overview of the project, each group took us on a sensory adventure, introducing us to the different stages of perfumery. We were introduced to many a

scent you would expect to see lining the shelves this Christmas season, with scents including, lavender, citrus and a rather gritty male aftershave.

It was at this stage we realised the scale of the project as we were made aware of each group's infectious pride in their product; had we been passing through looking for a fragrance, we would not have been able to resist the sales pitches employed in that science classroom on that rainy Thursday afternoon. The feedback we received was wholly positive with the experience a resounding success. Products complete, it was time for the pupils to begin marketing as their journey continued.

We spoke to a team of year eight students, who called themselves "MC Bros", who told us a little bit about their fragrance and how they came about it. Haydn told us that his group's fragrance, named "50-50", is "sweet and tangy, more of a boys' scent." It is "tangy and different," added Oliver. When asked about the packaging of their fragrance, Zerkif said, "My favourite part of the project was designing the packaging." When asked about his favourite part of the project, Haydn said, "I really enjoyed the distillation and trying to find a scent I liked."

After the teams made the perfumes and the packaging, they had to present what they had made to the "dragons". The groups timidly waited to go and see the dragons and we watched in the presentation room, very impressed by all of the entries, as were the judges. They were particularly impressed by two students who put forward their perfume on their own. Mr Grayel described them as "very brave".

Unfortunately, there could only be one winner: MC Bros. Enjoy the sweet smell of success!

## Cyberspace: Not all fun and games!

By Daniel Nutley, Year 7

On Friday 6th November in 5th and 6th period, Year 7 had a funny and engaging visitor called Rich Cottell, who had come to speak to them about cyberbullying.

### THE TORCH Journalists

This edition was produced by Bauble, Ceilli Briggs, Daniel Nutley, Lucy Redfern, Olivia Storey, Savanna Davies, Lauren Clack, Ellie Berridge, Ethan Corbett, Lauren Williams, Callam Manton, Hannah Stokes, Emily Balaiss, Aaron Duce, Molly Hammerton, James Jones, Eve Spurr, Mya Taylor, Nemesha Nelson, Christian Cooper, Shannon Hopwood, Charles Lord, Luke Stanley and Miss Taylor. Thanks also to Joshua Ramskill, Emily Loy, Aiden Quarmbly, Emily Aston, Chad Hart, Frankie Leeson, 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.

# inside the School Gates

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As a newly found, talented singer, and a very funny speaker, he presented to us an assembly full of songs, jokes and general fun. The assembly itself was told to us in a way we could really understand, including talking about when he met Facebook founders and all about his tour of the UK. But getting serious, he had had some previous experiences, including social media and family, that he didn't want us to have to experience ourselves. He also told us some heart touching stories that we were really engrossed by and also a bit scared by. The advice he gave was also good and very knowledgeable from personal experience.

Ultimately, he advised us to use social media but use it safely! Make sure all your profile on these accounts such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are set to private and friends only. He also said take things that you would take as a joke in real life as a joke online. Also, remember that those cartoon wonders emojis show up differently on different devices so what show up as one thing on an iPhone is different on an Android device.

## Ukulele Club

By Olivia Storey, Year 7

The ukulele club is run by the school's fabulous Mr. Smith. A music teacher, primarily, who used to teach science as well. How amazing! All years are welcome

(even teachers). All beginners are given a chance to learn all of the chords until they get a bit more experienced.

At the moment, the club are learning to do Christmas songs. Mr. Smith absolutely loves it when there are new people willing to join. If you think that you love music enough to give it a go then it is on Mondays after school in F4 (a music room).

As more new people keep going, the club keeps growing. Think about it.

## Movement Evening 2016

*Wath Comprehensive School is taking you on an extravagant journey back to the future.*

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Come join us on the 3rd, 4th and 5th February where the whole school will be entering Movement Evening fever 2016. This will be an engaging performance, taking you through time. It will include around 150 students and 20 staff members.

The show will commence at 6:30pm and last approximately two and a half hours including an interval where refreshments will be available. This show will consist of a variety of different dance styles and have elements of Acro that put you on the edge of your seat and Drama that will leave you wanting more. Head of Performing Arts department, Miss Anyon said: "Movement Evening is such a fantastic event because of how many students are involved; it's such an inclusive event and it's also really fun to create and be a part of."

Tickets will be on sale Tuesday 12th January and will be available to purchase from PE1 at break times. All tickets for the events are priced at £4 and are on high demand...so don't miss out!

# Creative Zone: Seasonal Sagas

This month, students were asked to welcome in the festive period by writing their own minisagas (stories with exactly 50 words) about the theme of Christmas.

## CHRISTMAS!!!

By Olivia Storey, Year 7

Tisn't long until Christmas.  
Mum says that Santa's not ready.  
I just think he's being steady.  
"Steady on! Steady on!"  
He'll be shouting to his reindeers:  
"We've got lots of presents here!"  
Rudolf will lead them to each good child's house.  
Pets get presents as well.  
Even my pet mouse.

## The boy who saved Christmas

By Ellie Berridge, Year 7

This year, whilst kids were sound asleep, Santa Claus was coming along to give them what they wished for. However, Santa Claus landed on a barn roof and broke his sleigh, and only one boy could help called Rider. He fixed the sleigh and Santa Claus was on his way.

## Lola's Dragontastic Christmas

By Savanna Davis, Year 7

As Lola walks around her dragon parent's castle, she sees something she's never seen before: a present! She sees the note, which says, "Dear Lola, have fun this Christmas with two things, your parents and this..."

She knows she isn't allowed to open it, but she can't help but wonder what is inside. All Lola wants to do is open that present but she has to wait till the next day (Christmas) and then she sees the present is a baby dragon! Its puppy-like eyes are adorable and she names it Crystal.

**Next month's theme will be: Valentine Verse!**

**Write a poem of your choice about the theme of love.**

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

**Deadline: Thursday 28th January.**

## Christmas

By Lauren Clack, Year 7

Crackers cracking everywhere,  
Hooves clip clapping up the stairs.  
Rudolf coming to your door,  
I want Christmas more and more  
Santa and his big warm hugs,  
Tinsel messing up the rugs.  
My excitement just can't wait,  
And it's time to celebrate.  
Santa's come! He's come! he's come! Come on  
mum! Run! Run! RUN!

## Just Think

By Joshua Ramskill, Year 7

In a house  
Far away  
One day  
A child got a bunch of hay  
What a shame  
On Christmas day  
The boy was angry  
And did not think  
About the world  
Starve and hunger  
While you slumber  
Don't you wonder  
About the hunger  
Think about the hunger around the world

## Christmas Surprise

By Aiden Quarmby, Year 7

It was 6:30AM on Christmas day when Thomas woke up. He looked out of his window and the road was covered in fresh untouched snow. As Thomas opened his door, he shouted, "It's CHRISTMAS!" Then he ran down the stairs, singing, "Dashing through the snow." But he only got... coal.

## Stuck Santa

By Ethan Corbett, Year 7

One day, I woke up and ran downstairs but there were no presents. Had Santa forgotten us? I

walked to the chimney and stuck there was Santa! I tried pulling him. Finally, he came out. I made him run on a treadmill before sending him off to deliver presents.

### Christmas on the Western Front

By Emily Loy, Year 7

They put down their guns and crossed into enemy lands. Simply because it was Christmas, the soldiers acted as a team and played football with no barriers, as if the whole world was at peace. But then the very day after, they started fighting again... We will remember them.

### The Night Before Christmas At Wath Comprehensive School

By Emily Aston, Year 7

'Twas the night before Christmas,  
When all through Wath School,  
Not a teacher was shouting,  
Everyone was cool.

The exercise books were put away with care,  
In hope that, forever, they would stay there.

Christmas day was dawning,  
With technology galore,  
Gift vouchers and other things 21st century kids  
adore.

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## Book of the Month

By Molly Hammerton, Year 8



This month's book is *Jurassic Park* by Michael Crichton, which was used as a base for the famous films. This book follows the archaeologist, Alan Grant, and his friend the palaeontologist (someone who studies plants), Ellie Sattler. When the two of them receive a phone call from John Hammond, inviting them to a mysterious island off the coast of Costa Rica, they are reluctant to come.

When they arrive on the island, they are joined by Ian Malcolm, Donald Gennaro, Lex and Tim and are astonished to find the island inhabited by dinosaurs. They are entranced by the animals, but soon it's not fun and games, but becomes a battle for survival.

This is a really breath-taking novel that you will struggle to put down. Heart racing adventures, death defying situations and a lot of dinosaurs. I recommend this book to the lovers of the films and dinosaurs.

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*Suspense, action and a load of dinosaurs! Pick up this book now.*



# Panto Fever:



*Boo hiss! Look out, Robin, the Sheriff of Nottingham is out to get you (above); Friar Tuck and his monks, amen (top right); behind the scenes—looks much more exciting with the colourful costumes and gorgeous backdrops (top right); Robin and the Sheriff come face to face... Will good triumph over evil (bottom right)?*

## Behind the Scenes Gossip

By Hannah Stokes (Year 8) and Emily Balaiss (Year 8)

Over the last few nights, the panto has been filling the school with laughter and fun. The cast have not just been acting on stage, but have been having a great time just practicing their lines and having a bit of fun.

We interviewed several cast members to see what they have been up to and if they are having fun. We asked the same questions to the people for the gossip and the fun.

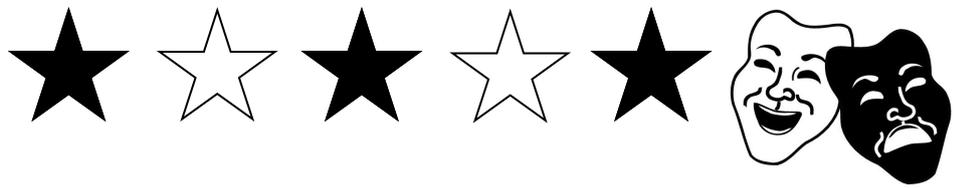
Eve Spurr was playing part of the villager, who she said was kind and innocent. When asked what it was like to be in the panto, she said that it was fun to watch it progress and that the people she was working with were really nice. She said that she would love the panto to be *Cinderella* next year.

Emily Balaiss had the part of a crusader and said her character is brave and adventurous. She loved being in the panto because it was fun and said the people she was working with became like brothers and sisters to her. She would love the panto next year to be *The Hunger Games*.

Phillipa Mathews was also taking the part of a crusader, and said that her character is strong and brave. She said that being a part of the pantomime was great because there was such a strong sense of community. She also added that she really liked the people in the scene and you get really close to them. Next year, she hopes the play will be *Rapunzel*.

I hope you bought your tickets because it's Robin Hood, and if you weren't a part this year, why not try out next year? You won't regret it!

# Robin Hood



## Review

Eve Spurr, Year 8

This year's Panto, Robin Hood, was a showstopper. This is the best word I can use to describe this awesome interpretation of the Yorkshire tale, Robin Hood.

The actors were perfectly prepared and they created an awe-inspiring atmosphere which enthralled their audience, who were all ages. The actors and actresses were fitted with make-up and costumes, which fit their character and developed, over the few months since the start of rehearsals, a personality which fitted their character perfectly.

I was lucky to be an actress in the Pantomime because I got to see the whole thing develop over the two months of rehearsals and the four nights of performing.

Make sure you get your tickets next year!





# Media and

## Lady C leaves the Jungle!

By Lauren Williams, Year 7

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Recently, the well-known author and socialite, Lady Colin Campbell, otherwise known as Lady C, left the jungle on supposed 'medical grounds'.

Some top magazines are debating the fact on why the star actually left, as they are almost certain it is not for these reasons. Many sources say, that in fact, she left due to excessive, continuous bullying from Duncan Bannatyne and Tony Hadley. After frequently informing her fellow campmates, who she was more friendly with, that the two men were expressing 'extremely hypocrite like behaviour' and speaking only 'verbal diarrhoea', we are led to believe that, perhaps, Lady C is telling the truth.

However, after her recent departure from the Australian celebrity jungle, we have discovered her campmates aren't the only ones she's sharing her feelings with. TV shows all over the country are firing out her different beliefs, each time, telling their audience a large amount of views. Although, as Duncan and Tony still remain in the jungle at this date, they cannot prevent Lady C from sharing her said-to-be fabled stories.

## London MCM Comic Con October 2015

By Shannon Hopwood, Year 11

All over the world, you can find a multitude of places where fans of comics, movies, games and anime gather each year to share their passion. These meetings are

called Comic Conventions, although this name is generally shortened to Comic Cons. Some of them are actually so popular that people from all over the world have been known to travel for hours to get there. One which I'm sure that most people have heard of is San Diego Comic Con in America. As of yet, London MCM is not quite that well-known, but this year, London MCM's convention saw 130,560 people pass through the doors from Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th of October. This completely eclipsed the previous record of 122,600 attendees at this May's Comic Con and the 110,200 at last October's show, officially making London Comic Con the third biggest Comic Con in the world, behind the huge shows in New York and San Diego.

While it did get very busy, it was amazing to be able to feel the incredible atmosphere in and around the Excel building, where the event was held. Everyone was buzzing with excitement as they wandered around throughout the weekend, trying to ignore their sore feet and aching backs while looking for bargains. Everyone that I spoke to was really nice and sociable, which made my time there even more enjoyable.

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Friday was the best day for those who just wanted to take their time and look around, without having to force their way through huge crowds of people. If Friday was the most relaxed day, then Saturday was the most hectic. Everyone was rushing around everywhere, trying to get to the stalls or push through the centre of the aisles. Even the train stations were overflowing on the Saturday, with many people being forced to take up

# Review



to four trains to get to their destination, rather than just the couple that they had intended to take. Sunday, while less crowded than Saturday, was still fairly busy. However, this was because most vendors had special offers on since it was the last day of the event. You could get most things far cheaper than you could on the other two days, making Sunday the best day for people who had seen things that they wanted throughout the rest of the weekend, but didn't want to spend huge amounts of money. Even I took advantage of the price cuts and special offers, landing myself a set of six posters for £20, rather than the original four.

Buying pricey merchandise wasn't the only thing to do at Comic Con. As usual, there was a wide array of special guests from many forms of media. They had guests from YouTube such as Hilly and Hannah Hindi, Rooster Teeth and The Yogscast (who did a special panel and gameshow). There were also guests, such as Sylvester McCoy, who hailed from movies and television series. Over the weekend, I was only able to meet one guest, Todd Haberkorn, an anime voice actor who was there every day. I met him on the Friday as it was the least busiest day, and despite this, he ended up staying for four hours after he was supposed to leave because he refused to let down fans that had been queueing to see him for several hours. I was quite lucky as I was the last person to be able to meet him that day, and I was able to get a hug from him. I don't think I've ever been any happier! Friday was definitely the best day to meet guests as there were fewer people around who wanted autographs, especially compared to Saturday when some guests had fans queueing up right

across the main hall.

One of the best things there for the more social and brave people were the cosplay meet-ups. At these events, fans of the same show or genre all met up as a huge group, chatted to each other and had photoshoots. These were my favourite parts of the weekend as I was able to talk to others who were interested in the same things as me and have a great time with other like-minded people. I went to all three Fairy Tail Meet-ups and it was honestly fantastic. I'd met up with other cosplayers before, but never on this sort of scale. As usual, Saturday was the busiest, but for the meets, that was a good thing. Sunday came in a close second, with Friday having the smallest ones.



Overall, the weekend was one of the best experiences of my life and I loved every back-breaking moment of it! I returned every night exhausted, but elated. The entire experience was nothing short of amazing and I look forward to going again next year!

## Amy Winehouse is back

By Ellie Berridge, Year 7

The news is here: all of Amy's secrets are going to be revealed in the new film where you can find out everything about her, even when she was aged 11, singing 'Happy Birthday' to her elder sister. Also, in the film, her last words to the public were: "I would really give up everything to walk the street again." However, now she's had her time of fame, she's gone to peace, away from the evil and up above with the good.

# Politics and Current Affairs:

## Panic in Paris

By Nemesha Nelson, Year 10

On 13th November, 2015, a series of mass shootings, hostage-takings and suicide bombings occurred in Paris and its northern suburb, Saint-Denis, starting at 21:20 CET.

There were three suicide bombings outside the Stade de France (the national French football stadium), along with a mass shootings and several other suicide bombings at four other locations around Paris. The worst attack, however, occurred in the Bataclan Theatre, where hostages were taken, leading to a stand-off between police and the attackers that lasted until 00:58am on the 14th.

As of now, 129 are confirmed dead, with 89 of them from the Bataclan Theatre; 352 others have been admitted to hospital with various injuries, with 80 of them described as in a critical state. Only 7 of the known attackers were injured in the initial event.

On 18th November, suspected leader of the attacks, Abdelhamid Abaaoud, was killed by police on his property in Saint-Denis. At least one other suspect was killed during the raid, and eight others were arrested.

The so-called Islamic State has since claimed responsibility for these attacks; in response, Francois Hollande, the French President, has declared war.

“They will never succeed in destroying the French soul,” Hollande claimed in an official response to the tragedy. “Terrorism will not destroy the Republic, because the Republic will destroy it.”

## Europe United

By Daniel Nutley, Year 7

Following Nemesha’s article on the disastrous Paris attacks, France and England united on Tuesday 17th of November to sing La Marseillaise (the French national anthem) ahead of the football match between them.

Coach Roy Hodgson said before the game that it will not be a “normal friendly” after the Paris attacks. Aside from all of the big media build up, the game was never about the football; it was more to do with showing that we are united and that England will stand with Paris and France throughout this hard time.

When the two teams united to sing the national anthem of France, they stood around the centre circle next to players from the opposition team.

However, when the game got going, England saw an amazing top corner strike from Tottenham youngster Dele Alli and a spectacular volley to make it two from long time serving Wayne Rooney. The end result was 2-0 to England. There were no dirty challenges in the game which showed solidarity.

## Toxic Mud

By Lucy Redfern, Year 7

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Earlier this year, several towns in Brazil were destroyed by some toxic mud, caused by a dam that collapsed. The town of Bento was left in desolation, forcing them to be pushed into temporary accommodation. Police are not sure just how big of an impact this incident has caused but are going to investigate thoroughly at the end of summer 2016.

Thick red mud polluted an enormous area of the Atlantic Ocean and the wave of ultimate poison destroyed all in its path. The wave was created after a British dam at an iron-ore construction collapsed and its pollution spilled down to the Rodrigues River. It is particularly bad for plants and animals because sea

# Wath Students Speak Out

creatures have been rapidly dying, which is worrying for some fishermen who can only catch one or two fish per day.

At least 8 people were killed and 11 are missing. This is scary to most people and police are ensuring that an incident like this with dams will never happen again. To do this, they are already putting borders on some rivers, so that if a dam collapses then it will not spill into the seas and oceans.

## Pro-Skating Animals!

By Lauren Williams, Year 7

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Otto the bulldog and an unnamed skate boarding goat have left both Britain and Peru astounded. The two made jaw dropping impressions when they both arrived at their different skating locations. Otto, the three year old bulldog, broke a Guinness World record, after skating through the legs of thirty people, the world's longest human tunnel; and being cheered on by a vast, astonished crowd. Then, he was presented with a certificate at the site of the occurrence in Peru, where he successfully broke the record. As for the goat, it also broke a record to do with skateboarding, which in the photo looks extremely comedic.

## The Age Conspiracy

By Nemesha Nelson, Year 10

Does birth order have something to do with personality? Apparently not, but scientific studies have found that the birth order of siblings does have something to do with intelligence. The older a sibling is, the smarter they are,

according to recent tests. Older siblings are also more likely to agree with statements like 'I understand new things quickly' than younger siblings.

However, age isn't everything. Studies have also shown that the younger siblings are healthier than older siblings. It turns out that older siblings are more likely to suffer from type one diabetes than their younger counterparts, and are also more likely to develop health complications and diseases.

## Word of the Year

Lauren Clack, Year 7

We all love the emoji and it looks like the Oxford English Dictionary does too: they have chosen the 'tears of joy' emoji as their word of the year 2016. But why?

Emojis are everywhere. We use them every day and the OED has caught on to this. Emojis are helpful, because, when we are in a rush or can't battle with spellcheck any longer, we can just use our emoji to describe how we are feeling. Believe it or not, this is surprisingly easy due to the many updates to Apple devices.

Some people, however, believe that emojis are bad for the children of our generation. There may as well be no meaning for the word 'socialization', because our generation are known for texting more than actually talking. People have said that they have had to drag their children outside to get some fresh air.

In conclusion, I think it is very good that the OED has chosen this emoji for their word of the year, because it may intrigue the teens and tweens of our generation to actually look up from their phone and enjoy life for once... but are they used too much? ... :-/



*Who would have thought that such a small bauble of pixels could cause such a divide in opinions?*

*Love or hate them, there's no denying it: emojis are here to stay.*

# Daniel Craig says no more Bond...

By Aaron Duce, Year 8

The actor Daniel Craig has said that he will not do a fifth Bond film after the new release *Spectre*. He starred in four Bond films, *Casino Royale*, *Quantum of Solace*, *Skyfall* and *Spectre*.

After the preview to the critics on Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of October in London, *Spectre* is already receiving the five star reviews from the critics.

What is your opinion? Would you like to see Daniel Craig do a fifth Bond film?

## The Jack the Ripper Case

By Molly Hammerton, Year 8

Loads of you will probably have heard of the infamous Jack the Ripper, but not many of us actually know much about the case. The only thing most people know about the famous murderer is that he was never caught and the case was never solved...

Picture Victorian London, a sickly smelling place where the streets are crowded with the poor, sick and injured. Crime is found in every street. In the town, there's a street called Whitechapel. Crime is frequently found here. A perfect place for a murder. That's what he thought. A woman named Mary Ann Nichols walks through the streets, late at night, alone. A man dressed in black comes up behind her and stops her screaming. This was the first murder.

Four more murders were found in that area of the city and no clue or murderer was ever found, except once... After the murder of Catherine Eddowes, the police (Scotland Yard and City of London Police, who did not work well together on the case) found, as they were scouring the area, a piece of cloth that had blood smeared on it (it was later confirmed that it was part of Eddowes' apron) outside a door that had writing on that said, 'The Juwes are the men that will be blamed for nothing.' This might have been key to catching the killer. But the police decided to wash off the top line before the police photographer could take the picture.

Even though the police wiped away evidence, it would have been difficult to catch Jack as in Victorian times, especially in Whitechapel, the roads were like dark mazes and the murderer could have used them to escape from the crime scene quicker. They also did not lock the doors so the Ripper could have either hidden in the house or escaped through the back door. Whatever happened, the case is still

## Top Five Movies Of 2015

### 1. Antman

The movie that makes ants look EPIC and makes humans pathetic. The movie really brings out the best in the actors.



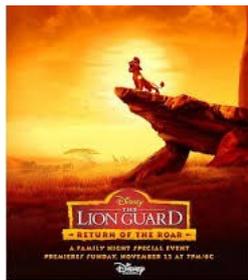
### 2. Hotel Transylvania 2



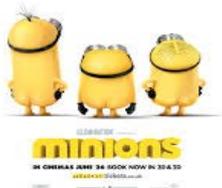
The amazing sequel to Hotel Transylvania, Bleh Bleh Bleh! Can Dracula's life get better. Yes, it can with a grandson called Dennis and a human-loving father.

### 3. The Lion Guard

Have you seen the Lion King? Well, this is the Lion Guard. A small movie which doesn't take place in the story (I think).



### 4. Minions



King Bob!!! The only English understandable in the film, which is a downfall, sadly.

### 5. Star Wars

In a galaxy far, far away (not really). The movie everyone is waiting for!



open...

# The Marvels of the Skies

By Ethan Corbett, Year 7

The colour of shooting stars, or meteors, is determined by two factors: the chemical composition of the meteoroid and the interaction of its atoms with the molecules in the atmosphere.

The atoms in the meteoroid emit light because they are heated up by entering the atmosphere, and so they burn and release different wavelengths of light, or different colours, in the same way that putting different compounds into fireworks makes them explode in different colours.

In simple terms, it's about what it's made out of plus what path it is on, like in Science when you burn chemicals to see their colour. The meteor burns in the atmosphere, making it a certain colour.

Image removed due to licensing restrictions

*Many bright baubles of light.*

# Politics Hit Parliament

By Frankie Leeson and Luke Stanley, Year 13

On Thursday 10th December the Year 12 and 13 Politics and History students visited London. After a McDonalds breakfast, the group arrived at the British Museum. Here we saw many amazing sights, such as the sarcophagus of Cleopatra and the Rosetta Stone. The group then spent a few hours in Covent Garden, doing some Christmas shopping and stopping for lunch. The afternoon was spent on a walking tour of London, where we saw Nelson's Column, the Cenotaph and, of course, 10 Downing Street. Unfortunately, David was not at home. We then arrived at Parliament where the group were able to witness a live debate in the

Commons on the Human Rights Act. We ended the day with a workshop on electoral systems where we saw first-hand the impact proportional representation has on our government. All in all, a long, but extremely enjoyable day!



# Christmas Word Search

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

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

CHRISTMAS  
CRACKERS  
JOLLY  
JOY  
MISTLETOE

PRESENTS  
REINDEER  
SANTA  
STOCKING  
TURKEY

# Sport and Music

## Local Football Triumph



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Image removed due to licensing restrictions

By Anonymous

It was Wigan vs Barnsley, in the Johnstone Paint Trophy area semi-final on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December. The game finished at full time 2-2, but ended 4-2 to Barnsley on penalties.

Two former Barnsley players, Craig Davies and David Perkins, missed their penalties. The Barnsley fans were setting off smoke bombs and singing and chanting throughout the game. The Wigan fans only sung when they scored, the Barnsley fans out sang all through the game. The noise was deafening.

Barnsley was the best team throughout the game, Wigan didn't look strong at all. Adam Hammill scored a goal to put Barnsley 1-0 up in the second half, and Will Grigg scored to make it 1-1. Then, Ivan Toney scored a header to make it 2-1 to Barnsley. Will Grigg scored his second of the game to make it 2-2, and then it was full time. It was now down to penalties.

Wigan was the first to take the penalty. Will Grigg took it and scored, and then Connor Houraine took it for

them and scored again. It was 1-1 on penalties.

Craig Davies took it and missed the penalty, but then Sam Winnall scored and made it 2-1. David Perkins took it and missed then Alfie Mawson took it and scored and made it 3-1. Barnsley needed Wigan to miss to win, but Reece James took it and scored: it was 3-2. My heart was in my mouth. If Adam Hammill scored, they would win it. With a smash at the back of the net, he did it and they won 4-2 on penalties.

Barnsley are now in the area final between Fleetwood and Morecambe, who will play on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Whoever wins that important game, will be playing Barnsley in the area final - it will be a two leg game, and one more step closer to Wembley stadium in London, to play either Millwall, Southend United, Oxford United or Yeovil.

Whoever wins between Millwall and Southend will play either Oxford or Yeovil in the southern area final, while Barnsley will play either Fleetwood or Morecambe in the northern final. It will get announced on the Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. I can't wait.

