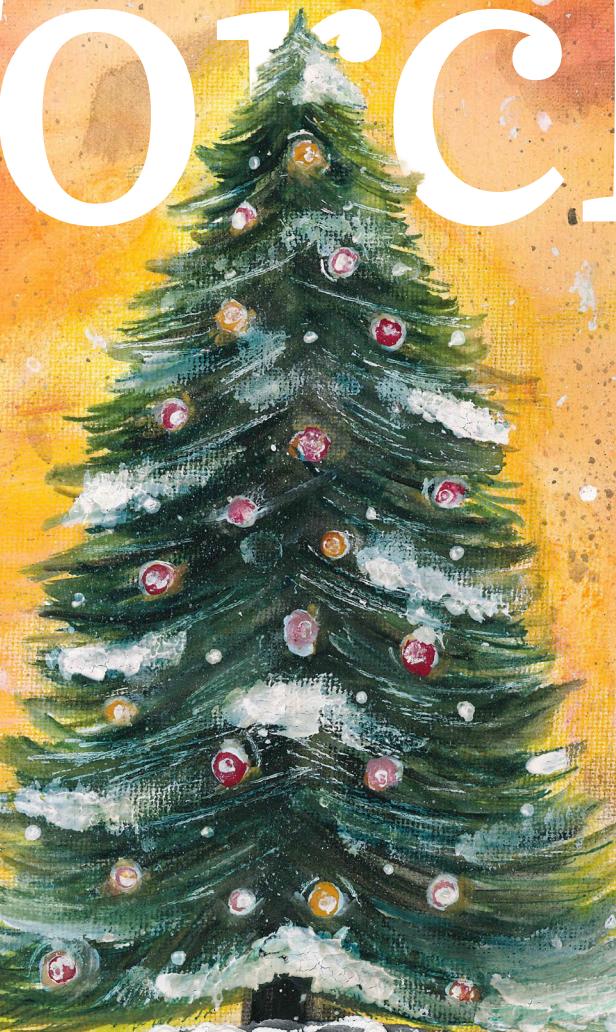


# Torch





# Torch

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

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**Wath  
Academy**

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## Season's Greetings from *Torch*!



Welcome to this festive edition of *Torch*. This issue's fantastic cover art is a Christmas tree in gouache and acrylic paint on a watercolour background by A Level Art student **Grace H** in Year 13. Merry Christmas to all our readers!

# HOUSE UPDATE



This term has been nothing short of remarkable at Wath Academy, with students and staff coming together to excel in house competitions while supporting important causes. The spirit of teamwork and generosity has truly shone through in every event.

One of the standout moments was our incredible response to the Restart a Heart initiative. During a lively lunchtime challenge, each House raced to transport the most 'blood' in a creative competition designed to raise awareness of life-saving skills. Thanks to everyone's enthusiasm and generosity, we raised an impressive £640 for the Yorkshire Ambulance Service.

Another unforgettable highlight was the Children in Need 'Rowshow'. Students showed extraordinary determination as they worked tirelessly on rowing machines to achieve our ambitious Everest challenge. Collectively, we rowed an astonishing 236,584 metres – that's 26.74 Everests, and 15,359 metres over our target! This incredible effort reflects the dedication and energy of our school community. The total amount raised is still being counted, so watch this space for the final figure!

In another extraordinary act of generosity, Wath Academy's snowflake was lit on Sheffield Children's Hospital after raising funds for the hospital charity. This symbolic gesture highlights the compassionate spirit of our students, staff, and wider school



community, who continue to make a real difference beyond the classroom.

These achievements are a testament to the strength of our House spirit and our commitment to making a difference. Thank you to everyone who participated, donated, and supported these fantastic initiatives. Together, we've proven that when Wath Academy comes together, amazing things happen.

As the term draws to a close, the House standings are tighter than ever. Rome currently leads the Work Cup and the Staff Cup, while Troy holds the top spot for the Games Cup. The last day of term promises even more excitement with festive family games and our first ever House Talent Show, where valuable house points will be up for grabs.

Well done to everyone involved for making this term so impactful and memorable!

**Mrs Lines • Head of Troy**

# REMEMBRANCE DAY

*The school paused on 11th November to remember those who gave their lives in conflict.*

This year at Wath Academy, we commemorated the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women involved in the two world wars and later conflicts.

Students wrote written messages of thanks and remembrance which were displayed on video screens across the academy. The Royal British Legion attended assemblies for every year group and there were banners and poppies on our railings to commemorate the former Wath pupils who made the ultimate sacrifice. We invited Governors, members of the Parent and Community Advisory Board and parents and carers to observe the two minutes silence on Armistice Day, with the whole school and were proud to have students who are member of uniformed organisations wearing their uniforms. Students in sugar craft

enrichment decorated cakes to symbolise remembrance.

**Mrs Pritchard** • Associate Assistant Principal



Above: Remembrance cakes and one of the banners commemorating Wath students who died in World War II

Below: The school gathers for the 11 am silence



# RESTART A HEART DAY

*Students from across Wath Academy learnt life-saving CPR skills from Yorkshire Ambulance Service.*

**O**n Tuesday 16 December, Wath Academy took part in its first ever Restart a Heart Day with Yorkshire Ambulance Service.

Restart a Heart Day is part of a nationwide campaign to improve survival rates from cardiac arrest. Every year, thousands of people in the UK suffer cardiac arrests outside of hospitals, and immediate CPR can vastly increase the chances of survival.

Yorkshire Ambulance Service volunteers spent a full day at the academy and

provided hands-on demonstrations, guiding students through the steps of performing CPR effectively.

The initiative aimed to raise awareness about cardiac arrest and empower young people with the confidence and knowledge to act in an emergency.

A total of 687 students took part in the event, learning how to recognise cardiac arrest, call for help, and perform effective chest compressions – skills that could make the difference between life and death in an emergency.

Students also took part in fundraising activities to raise money for the Yorkshire Ambulance Service Charity, which supports the local ambulance service to save more lives across Yorkshire, by enabling **everyone** to respond in a medical emergency.

**Mrs Frith** • Careers Manager



Students practise CPR on Restart a Heart Day under the careful instruction of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service

# BLUTHERINGTON-SMYTHE FUNERAL TURNED DISASTER!

*Still in character, James Brown (played by Year 13's Oliver S) tells us about the funeral setting for this year's murder mystery evening.*

The funeral of John Augustus Blutherford-Smythe was supposed to be a prestigious and private event to celebrate and mourn the life and death of this exceptionally wealthy and respected man, but that night had other plans. After a few minutes of bickering between family members and some random care giver who nobody knew, the police stormed in and had to interrupt because John had not died of natural causes but rather, he had been killed by someone in that very room!

After confessions from Chloe Taylor-Thomas Blutherford-Smythe about trying to run away, Charlotte Elizabeth Blutherford-Smythe being on the brink of bankruptcy, John having favourite children and the random guy, James Brown, having been in prison before he took the care giver job, the truth was eventually found out! It turns out that James had poisoned John!

But in another shocking turn of events, James had been poisoned too and told to 'keep quiet or the next dose will be

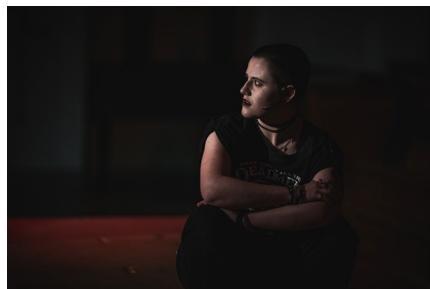
slightly more lethal' via text message! And again, in another stupefying twist, it had been Lillian that had put James Brown up to the task of poisoning John and killing the renowned fashion designer but now infamous thief Giovani. Both were arrested and still Charlotte could not care less what happened!

Some comments we got from those involved were:

"We are at his funeral. I can't believe you. You do realise that everyone is watching. You have just disrespected our father's name in front of his entire business network." – Lillian Elizabeth Osborne née Blutherford-Smythe

"As I said to them earlier, I need to get paid. Then, I'm off." – James Brown

"What? Am I psychic? I don't know and I don't care. All that matters to me is what Daddy gives me. And he gave me everything." – Charlotte Louise Osborne Blutherford-Smythe



Photos: Adam Galliford Photography

“We only met at family functions and for public appearances; he seemed a little uptight from my angle, but I hardly knew the bloke.” – Chloe Taylor-Thomas Osborne Blutherford-Smythe

Breaking the fourth wall for a minute, it was an absolute joy acting in it. As the actor for James Brown, it was a delightful night just to have an excellent audience that contained so many people that were fully immersed in the show. I loved the feedback

that I got from many of the audience members, in the words of one of my closest friends: “It was absolute cinema.”

I would like to say a massive thank you for letting all of us know that we were fantastic actors. I would also like to thank everyone that acted in the show and especially Mr Tipping for being such a dramatic and hilarious police officer.

**Oliver S • Year 13**

# *Cabaret*

An Evening at the



*Sixth form Dance students performed at the annual cabaret night. Performer Madi L takes us behind the scenes.*





Photos: Adam Galliford Photography



**C**abaret was a night to remember. Our sixth form dance cohort performed spectacularly. Guided by our Dance teachers, we showcased the full spectrum of dance styles we do in class. This cabaret contained everything from the sharp flair of commercial, elegance of jazz, and a hauntingly playful Adams Family tap trio – a routine I was proud to be part of. Each routine performed brought a spark of creativity to the night which lit up the night.

The evening flowed seamlessly. Credit to the backstage production team and careful planning that went into running a dance show. For me, the highlight of the dance show stepping into character for the Adams Family tap trio, with its mix of humour, rhythm and teamwork which captivated the audience.

It was also brilliant to see the talented Year 12s stepping up to the stage and performing with confidence. The energy they displayed shone through showing their commitment, proving the future of our dance cohort is looking bright.

Being in my last year sharing the stage with my peers for my final cabaret felt especially meaningful. In my opinion, this wasn't just a showcase of dance but celebrated our journey together, such as the friendships we built and the collective joy we all have to perform.

**Madi L • Year 13**





## Spanish Visit to

# Salamanca

*Students studying Spanish were lucky enough to go on a visit to Salamanca in Spain. Sixth former Harriet reports back on her experience.*

The trip to Salamanca was an utterly amazing experience, even from landing in Madrid. Visiting the Santiago Bernabéu on our first day was extremely impressive, even for someone like me who doesn't have an interest in football.

Then, we arrived in Salamanca by coach the same day where we first met our host families and managed to have an initial look around city. My first impression was just how beautiful it was. I stayed with a lovely woman called Isabel and the whole experience of living with her was a very valuable, not only for strengthening our understanding of the language but also for an insight into her daily life living in Salamanca. Learning about her, her city and common Spanish traditions in general was so fascinating and it was a great opportunity to meet new people from different backgrounds and cultures. In fact, I got her contact details in case I ever visit Salamanca again, which I certainly think I will.

On our first full day, we went to the language school, where we did numerous activities including learning complex Spanish grammar and communicative skills.

Personally, doing A Level Spanish, this was an extremely beneficial and interesting opportunity.

Then, that night, we enjoyed traditional Spanish tapas in the gorgeous Plaza Mayor which was lovely, though I preferred Isabel's cooking.

On the last full day of the trip, we participated in a Salsa dance class taught by a Cuban salsa dancer which was extremely fun, especially watching all the teachers get involved.

However, for me, the best activities were the tours, whether that be all around the city or specifically up and around the cathedrals. It was so culturally enriching to learn about the history and culture specific to Salamanca, but the enormous, beautiful buildings were impressive enough. To be able to partake in such an event through school was unreal, and to visit such a beautiful city was a very lucky and wonderful experience.

**Harriet G • Year 13**



Above: A tapas tour in Plaza Mayor of Salamanca.

Below: Henry Santos from Cuba teaching students how to dance bachata and salsa.



“I stayed with a lovely woman called Isabel and the whole experience of living with her was a very valuable, not only for strengthening our understanding of the language but also for an insight into her daily life living in Salamanca.”

# AN UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURE

*Crowden Outdoor Centre hosted Wath students.*

We were delighted to offer some of our Year 7 and Year 8 students an exciting opportunity to take part in a two-night residential visit to Crowden Outdoor Education Centre in the beautiful Peak District. Students enjoyed a packed itinerary designed to challenge, inspire, and develop teamwork. Among the most memorable activities were:

## **Caving Adventures**

Students loved exploring the underground world, navigating through tunnels and chambers. For many, this was a completely new experience that pushed them out of their comfort zones and gave them a real sense of achievement.

## **The Crate Challenge**

This activity was a huge hit! Working together to build and climb a tower of crates tested balance, communication, and problem-solving skills – and provided plenty of laughter along the way.

## **Evening Fun with Old-Fashioned Games**

After an action-packed day outdoors, evenings were filled with traditional games like charades and pictionary, which brought



everyone together for light-hearted fun and plenty of giggles. Students developed confidence, resilience, and teamwork skills and we were really proud of how all attending embraced the many challenges of the trip.

**Mrs Pritchard** • Associate Assistant Principal

# CADBURY WORLD

## Year 10 Business students visit Bournville.

**A** group of 45 Year 10 Business students visited Cadbury World, gaining a valuable first-hand insight into how a UK-based global manufacturer operates, competes, and builds one of the world's most recognisable brands.

The visit brought classroom theory to life by showing how brand collaboration and ownership work in practice. Students learned how Cadbury sits within a wider global portfolio, with links to brands such as Hershey's, Philadelphia, Kraft and Fry's, and how global competition shapes product decisions, marketing, and distribution. A particularly interesting discussion focused on how regulation and public health priorities influence product strategy, including why extremely unhealthy products such as Oreo Max are not sold in the UK due to NHS and public health concerns. This clearly demonstrated the tension between profit, ethics and regulation.

Branding was a major theme throughout the visit. Students experienced the 4D cinema adventure hosted by the Caramel Bunny, saw the iconic Cadbury's Gorilla,

and witnessed how colour, mascots, music and storytelling are used to create emotional connections with consumers. These experiences reinforced how branding adds value beyond the product itself and helps Cadbury stand out in a highly competitive global market.

The historical side of Cadbury World was equally engaging. Interactive videos traced the history of chocolate from Aztec times to the modern day, helping students understand how products evolve over time. The story of the Cadbury family was particularly powerful, highlighting how they pioneered modern employee conditions such as healthcare and pensions, showing an early example of ethical business practice. Students were also intrigued to learn about Cadbury's partnership with Thomas Cook, helping to create one of the first package holidays, linking business innovation to wider social change.

Overall, the Cadbury World trip was both educational and memorable. It successfully combined business theory, history, ethics and marketing in an engaging setting, giving students a clear understanding of how a global manufacturer balances competition, branding, regulation and responsibility. The visit strongly reinforced key GCSE Business concepts and provided real-world context that will support students in their future learning.



**Mr Marriott** • Head of Business & Economics

# COMING SOON: *GREASE*

*The world-famous musical is coming to Wath Academy in March.*

**W**ath Academy proudly presents the smash hit musical *Grease*. Experience the friendships, romances and adventures of the teenagers from Rydell High School as they face the challenges of growing up in the 1950s.

We are pleased to have secured all the great songs written specifically for the film including 'You're the One That I Want', 'Sandy', 'Hopelessly Devoted to You' as well as the classic originals such as 'Summer Nights' and 'Greased Lightnin''. Book early to secure your choice of seats.

Performances take place on:

Tuesday 10th March

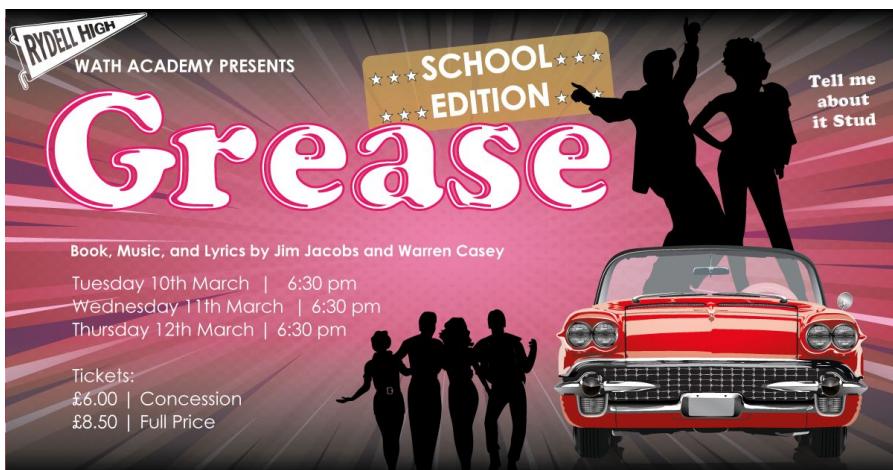
Wednesday 11th March

Thursday 12th March

All performances begin at 6:30 pm.

 Tickets are available to buy on the Your Box Office website by scanning the QR code on the left or visiting:  
[yourboxoffice.co.uk/wath-academy/1290-grease](http://yourboxoffice.co.uk/wath-academy/1290-grease)

**Mr Montgomery** • Subject Leader Drama



# 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](http://wathacademy.com/torch)).

With it being the festive season, this issue let's look back on a Christmas-themed article from 2014. With the ever-increasing commercialisation of the entire holiday season, the author recounts some experiences of the manic shopping season in the run-up to the big day and wonders if the real meaning of Christmas has been lost.



## Have We Lost the True Meaning of Christmas? (2014)

**T**he shops are filled with freshly plucked turkeys. The aisles are packed with wintery slogans. The blaring music attracts vulnerable shoppers.

It can only be Christmas... oh, wait it's only September.

Don't get me wrong, I love Christmas, but what really gets me going is the commercial aspects – shops raise the prices of gifts and everything to do with Christmas.

I'd prefer Christmas a lot more if businesses didn't take advantage of gullible shoppers.

Just think about Black Friday this year. One person broke their arm, rushing to get the best deals.

Elsewhere, the police were called in to stop things getting out of hand. How can we live in a world where this sort of frantic behaviour (all in the name of getting the best deals) is acceptable?

Shouldn't Christmas be more about family greetings and talking about funny moments from the past eventful year?

As well as the commercial value, have we forgotten the real reason why we celebrate Christmas? I'm talking, of course, about the birth of Jesus.

In the rush to buy presents, we often forget to spend time in church and we never stop to listen to the Christmas carollers. This would provide a constant feeling of happiness and joy... if we would just slow down and pay attention.

Overall, I strongly believe that we should stay traditional as it is so much nicer than rushing around doing last minute shopping.

So, instead of barging past other Christmas shoppers for those dubious bargains, why not spend time with family and friends and rediscover the true meaning of Christmas?

*Ethan G*

# TOP 10 PLACES TO VISIT IN YORKSHIRE

*Yorkshire is full of great places to visit that don't always get the attention they deserve. Chloe C in Year 7 tells us about 10 of them.*

**Y**orkshire is a county in the north of England. Home to the Yorkshire pudding and the birthplace of Dracula, Yorkshire is a diverse county with stunning architecture and picturesque scenery. In the past, Yorkshire has been home to Romans and Vikings. The county is well known for its flag being a white rose. Yorkshire as a whole is the largest county in England although not if it is divided into four separate smaller counties.

## 1) Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Yorkshire wildlife park is a wildlife sanctuary in South Yorkshire. It is home to penguins, polar bears, sea lions and many



Yorkshire Wildlife Park (Image: Adam King on Unsplash)

other amazing animals. It also has a hotel and a small shopping village.

## 2) Wentworth Woodhouse

Wentworth Woodhouse is a country mansion and is the setting of the BBC film *Billionaire Boy*. It has a vast garden area and a structure on top of a hill visible from the Hall. There is a slight mistake on one of the floors. If you ever visit, see if you can spot it!

## 3) The Shambles

The Shambles is an old fashioned shopping street in the centre of York. For all Harry Potter fans this is the real life Diagon Alley. There is even a Harry Potter shop. It is home to many different quaint shops.

## 4) Whitby Abbey

Whitby Abbey has stood tall for over 1,350 years, founded by St Hilda the Abbey has fallen into ruins. To get to the Abbey you have to climb the famous 199 steps. At the top of the steps, there is a brewery in an old farmhouse.

## 5) Jorvik Viking Centre

Situated in York, Jorvik is an immersive museum all about what life was like back in

Viking York (Jorvik). It is famous for its ride that takes you along a street; its famous slogan is 'been there, smelt that'.

### 6) The Forbidden Corner

Deep in North Yorkshire is a mysterious place full of surprises and traps. You can stay here in lodges but it is also brilliant for days out. Many people wonder in its labyrinth of paths.

### 7) National Railway Museum

In York you can immerse yourself in a VR experience of the Flying Scotsman. There is a restored carriage and a Shinkansen (Japanese Bullet Train). You could ride on the road train or see signalling in action.

### 8) Scarborough Castle

Situated on top of the cliff in Scarborough. It is in ruin; it is about 3,000 years old. There is a World War II signal station and 12 acres of meadow. There are amazing views of North Bay and it is free to all English Heritage members.

### 9) York Minster

The home of the Archbishop of York, York Minster is one of the top places to visit in York. It is in the centre of York and can be seen from miles around. A church has been on the site since 627AD.



Whitby Abbey (Image: TatianaHepplewhite, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons)

### 10) Yorkshire Dales

Nestled deep in North Yorkshire is miles of rural countryside; there are many different walking routes and places to visit. Harry Potter was filmed at Malham Cove. It is home to the Yorkshire peaks including Whernside, Ingleborough and Pen-y-ghent.

**Chloe C • Year 7**



Wentworth Woodhouse (Image: Paul Clarkson (Paulrach), CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons)

# UNDERRATED SPORTS

I want you to think yourself about the most unknown sport you know. All sports help you to maintain a healthy lifestyle – some more than others – so, let's take a look into the top five most underrated sports:

## 5) Fencing

Fencing is described 'physical chess' as it is an ancient Olympic sport that requires agility, speed, strength and strategy. It has often been described as 'niche' or 'boring', resulting in it being underrated. It originated in the 18th century and evolved into it being in the modern Olympic games. There are three weapons in fencing: foil, épée, and the sabre, each distinctly unique with its own rules.

## 4) Rowing

Rowing is a low-impact workout that is both a cardio and strength exercise. It is considered underrated because of the continued need for extra equipment and it cannot be accessible for everyone due to certain locations it requires to be in. It can be off putting to some people who doesn't like a full on intense workout and it takes time and effort to learn.

## 3) Rugby

Rugby was created in 1823 when William Ellis allegedly picked up the ball during a soccer match. Internationally, the first ever rugby match ever was between England and Scotland. And we smashed it! I mean literally: England has won the most Grand Slams in the Six Nations competition, with 13 titles. Rugby balls were originally made from pig bladders, which were then replaced by rubber bladders after a middle-

aged woman died from an illness related to the ball.

## 2) Ice Hockey

Ice hockey originated in Montreal in 1875, with its status as the national winter sport of Canada. The layout of the game is that there are two teams with six players on each side, holding sticks to pass the puck around until it eventually gets into the other teams' net. A big game can consist three twenty minute periods and if a player breaks a rule, then they must sit in the penalty box, resulting in the team having fewer players. Ice hockey builds endurance in your body and is a full body workout.

## 1) Squash

You've probably never heard of squash, right? Me neither until I wrote this article. Squash is a fast-paced sport which requires flexibility, coordination, and strength. It's a racket game that has been acknowledged for its extremely intense full-body workout: you can burn 600-1000 calories per hour. It developed in 1830, played in a four-walled court. Squash is a highly educated sport, in which I mean that around all players have at least a college degree. It is still striving to be included in the Olympics.

I really enjoyed writing this article today. I have learned about many sports and have delved deep into the depths of these sports. Thank you for reading this article and I encourage you to take up one of these sports if you have the time.

**Ellie N • Year 7**





# The Space Between the Joy

*This dramatic monologue by Niamh E in Year 9 vividly imagines the scene on Christmas Day but also stops to reflect on what it is that makes the day so special.*

Christmas Day.

Every year I tell myself I'm ready.

Prepared.

Organized.

Emotionally stable.

And every year

Christmas laughs in my face.

There's always chaos.

Someone can't find scissors.

Someone else wrapped a gift with four different kinds of tape for reasons I can't emotionally begin to unpack.

And then there's the moment we discover we bought a toy that requires eight AA batteries which of course we do not have.

Because batteries on Christmas are a myth. A legend. A cruel joke played by the universe

But then...

after the laughter, the noise, the sugar rushes, the dogs eating wrapping paper they definitely weren't supposed to...

there's this pause

The kind of pause where the world finally remembers to breathe.

And in that quiet... I notice the empty spaces.

I notice the chairs that don't get pulled out anymore.

The stories that aren't told in the same voice.

The laugh I still wait to hear every year, even though even though I know it won't come.

It's funny...

For all the noise Christmas brings,  
it's the silence that teaches me the most.

It reminds me that this day was never really about the presents



even though we all pretend it is,  
and some of us nearly lose a finger trying to open those plastic packages from the depths  
of hell.

Christmas is about people.

The ones who fill the room, loud and messy and gloriously imperfect  
and the ones who fill our hearts even when their seat stays empty.

So yes... I laugh today.

I laugh at the chaos, the burnt food, the crooked bows, the dog wearing a tree skirt like a  
cape because no one stopped him.

But I also feel the weight of love

past and present.

And I'm grateful.

So deeply, quietly grateful

For the people still here...

For the people who taught me what love feels like...

And for the miracle that I got to have them in my life  
even if not for as long as I wanted.

So

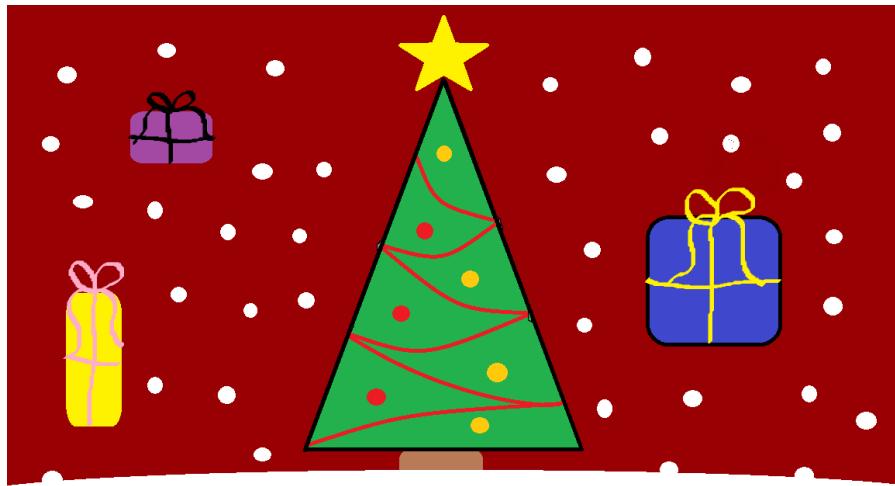
Merry Christmas.

To every laugh, every memory, every person  
here, gone, or held forever in the heart.

And if anyone finds the batteries...

I call dibs.

**Niamh E • Year 9**



**Connie S • Year 7**

# SPOTIFY WRAPPED

*The app's yearly review of users' listening is out.*

For the past few years, listeners have been waiting for their Spotify Wrapped to be released at the beginning of December, as a sort of Christmas tradition. Whilst keeping the general idea of the contents similar, there are slight variations to what we see each year on our feeds.

A distinct new feature of the 2025 Wrapped is the new listening age section. This tells listeners how old the app thinks they are based on the artists and genres they listen to. It has been really interesting for people to compare how different their music tastes are compared to the typical music other people in their age group listen to.

Spotify Wrapped also contains its regular data in which it has collected, such as the top songs, artists and albums a listener has created a pattern in throughout the year. These have been shared in a very similar way as it has done in the past, with not much varying from how it has varied in years prior. Whilst there isn't much difference between how this information has been displayed over the years, it is good to keep some similarities with the Wrapped releases over the years as it allows for users to be able to compare their data to previous years. It has become sort of a trend to compare all of the years in which people have used and see how their music taste has progressed, whether it has changed significantly or that it may have remained very similar.

As usual, the data released has also revealed the amount of minutes, genres, albums and songs a user has listened to, allowing the idea to compare previous years to continue. This is a feature that allows listeners to reflect on their music journey over the year, but also see how much their lives are impacted by it by comparing the amount of content they have consumed.

Another new feature of Spotify Wrapped this year is the introduction of listeners' clubs, allowing people to gain connections to those with similar tastes and interests. By allowing people to see their role in these clubs, listeners can see how their music taste can be reflected into their personalities – for example, leaders who are seen as confident based of their listening data. It has allowed for people to see how they are similar to others through their beliefs also, as lots of music reflects a persons attitude and how they view the wider world.

Overall, I think the new additions to Spotify's Wrapped feature have been very successful, yet keeping some of the segments the same as the past allows listeners to feel nostalgic when looking back at their music habits over the course of the year, or even those before the current one.

**Ruby R • Year 13**



# REVIEWS

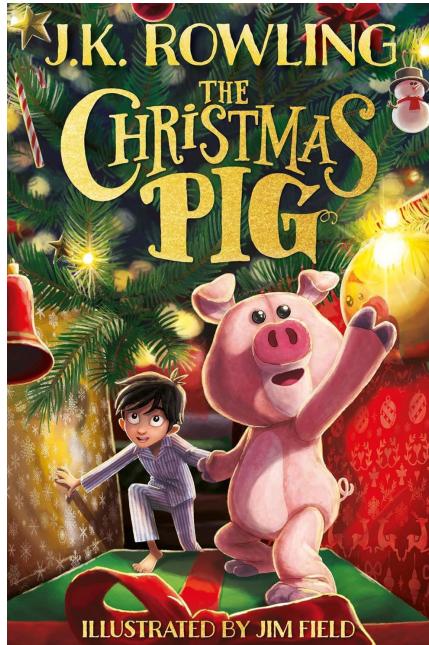
## *The Christmas Pig* by J. K. Rowling

J. K. Rowling is a British author known for the world-renowned *Harry Potter* series of books about a wizard called Harry Potter and him and his friends go on magic journeys just like the Christmas pig.

*The Christmas Pig* is an adventure story about a little boy who on Christmas Day gets a toy pig. He loves it so much that him and the pig become inseparable. But one day he loses the pig and can't live without him. His sister buys him a new, one exactly the same, because she feels sorry for him, but he isn't happy as it isn't the same as his old one. But one night the new pig comes alive and wakes the boy up. After that, he goes on an adventure to the island of the lost to find the first pig, Dur Pig.

The genres of this book are adventure fiction, fantasy fiction and Christmas story.

I like some adventure books and I love this one. I love the story behind Dur Pig (the pig he loses) and the little boy Jack. It's sweet and when he loses it he goes on a big adventures making it a very interesting book. However, I wish there was a sequel to complete this Christmas story.



The characters are Jack the boy who goes on all the adventures with the Christmas Pig. The Christmas pig is the one who takes Jack on all the adventures.

**Evie F • Year 7**



1. Santa	6. Tree	11. Jumper	16. Christmas
2. Christmas	7. December	12. Christmas	
3. Elf	8. Advent	13. Dasher	
4. Rudolf	9. Calendar	14. Pancake	
5. Present	10. Carols	15. Snow	
6. Pudding			

**Anagram Solutions**

## **The Red Red Dragon** by Lynne Reid Banks

A dragon is with its family. Him and his family are asked by their government to find coal. They travel to an island full of uprights (people) who want to kill the dragons due to a war a long time ago.

This was a very exciting book because it's a type of fantasy and fantasy is my favourite genre. It's action-packed. I would recommend it to people who like fantasy/adventure. ★★★★★

**Edward R • Year 7**



## **Gilmore Girls** (streaming on Netflix, Disney+ and ITVX)

This comedy is about a mother and daughter who are more like best friends. The mother is Lorelai and the daughter is named Rory. Lorelai had Rory when she is 16. Lorelai never had a good relationship with her family and they were quite controlling over her. She ran off when she had the baby and went to work at an inn as a maid which was quite frowned upon in the Gilmore family as they were very wealthy people. She didn't know how to raise a child very much as she was 16 so she had to figure it out for herself that's what made them such good friends (she treated her like she would want to be raised).

Lorelai and Rory like to binge watch films and mock them and they can eat for literally forever. Their favourite place to go for breakfast everyday is Luke's. Rory dreams of going to Harvard and the only way that can happen is if she goes to Chilton but Lorelai can't afford it so she has

to go to Emily and Richard, her mother and father. She has never really spoken to her parents from when she was 16 other than special occasions such as Christmas time so this is very hard for her and she had to go to Friday dinners very week due to this.

**Connie S • Year 7**





# Puzzles

## Christmas Wordsearch

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

HOLLY  
RUDOLPH  
ELVES  
MUPPETS  
TREE

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
CHRISTMAS CAROL  
YULE  
HOME ALONE

PRESENT  
GRINCH  
SANTA  
CAROL

**Niamh E • Year 9**

## Christmas Anagrams

1. ANATS	6. ETRE	11. RPMEJU
2. ATMSIHCSR	7. MEDCBREE	12. GNDPSMHCRISTUDIA
3. FLE	8. TVNDAE	13. EAHDSR
4. LOURDF	9. DEENACRL	14. ECPRRNA
5. TEERSPN	10. SOCALR	15. OSNW

**Ruby B • Year 8**

# MOVEMENT EVENING



27th, 28th and 29th January

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6:30 PM



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