

# The Park Times



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## WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON AT ROUNDWOOD?

As always, Roundwood has been very busy over the last term. Our issue begins with Maths week which was run by the Maths department and Curriculum Captains. The week was I'm A Celebrity themed, with the Maths block being draped in vines and inflatable snakes.

Competitions were held every lunchtime, ending with the iconic cyclone on Friday, all, of course, with mouthwatering prizes. The week was definitely a success, as many students flocked around the Maths block daily. Well done for all the hard work that went into organising such a fun week!



Next came Wilberforce Charity week, running from the 9th to the 13th of May. The week included cake sales, movie nights, fetes and 'sponge the teacher', all organised by the House Captains Deniz and Jess, and Miss Harris, Head of House. Turn to page three to read more.

Roundwood also said goodbye to our Year 11s and Year 13s this term. Well done to all those who took exams this year, now, you can turn to your well-deserved summer. We wish all the best of luck to the departing Year 13s, and hope to see lots of Year 11s back next year!



Roundwood also held our own Jubilee celebration this year, organised by our Head Boy and Girl. The SLG and House Captains gathered on the field, along with Mr Henshall and Dr John Howie, The Deputy Lieutenant for Hertfordshire. Trees were planted for each house and the flute choir performed a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem. A classic BBQ lunch was then held, with the canteen making some delicious hotdogs and scones.

Sports day was held on the 27th of May. The day was full of cheers of support, medals and banners. Well done to Scott House for winning, turn to page five to read more!

Finally, Frank House charity week took place on the 13th to the 17th of June. The week contained cake sales, lego building competitions and Mr Rowlands once again braved the shave. More on page four.

Your Communication Captains,  
Josie and Faith



# WILBERFORCE CHARITY WEEK

Wilberforce Charity week ran from the 9th to the 13th of May, and was jam-packed with loads of fun activities. Of course Wilberforce kept the classic cake sales, helping to provide the eager students of Roundwood with sugary treats. The week however did provide some new, innovative activities unseen by previous charity weeks, such as fetes and movie nights.



The week commenced with drawing competitions and cake decorating in the hall on Monday. In the evening, a movie night took place in the drama studio, themed 'Marvel Monday', where many gathered to watch Spiderman take to the screen.



On Tuesday, a fete took place in the hall. Activities included egg and spoon racing, hook the duck, dribbling footballs and hula hooping. The winners of these classic British events were awarded with all kinds of sweets. In the evening, the movie nights continued with 'Terror Tuesday' putting on Coraline.

On Wednesday, a 'Shoot the Hoop' competition was held in the hall. This was followed on Thursday by a 'Sponge the Teacher' activity on the field; well done to all the brave teachers who took part!

Finally, the most impressive event of the week took place; M Bush from 8W cut her hair to donate for the Little Princess charity. Over £750 was raised alone from sponsors for her haircut, an act that was both generous and selfless, displaying all the qualities that a Roundwood Park student should aim to possess.



All in all, Wilberforce Charity week was a clear success, with over £2100 being raised, a phenomenal total which will go towards our school charities. Finally, a huge thank you to Jess, Deniz and Miss Harris for putting on such an incredible week, and well done to all those who helped and took part.

The new Frank house logo!



## FRANK HOUSE CHARITY WEEK

Whilst Frank House have previously been successful in their Charity work and remain the House that has raised the most for charity in a single year, this year Frank abandoned their annual charity run and instead encouraged 'personal challenges'. This increased participation, by ensuring no-one's creativity was stifled.



The week kicked off with Mr Rowlands braving the shave on Monday. Following Mr Rowland's example, many students underwent their own individual challenges, with 7F raising £90.00 for their 'mud run'.

Mrs McAlinney did 100 squats a day in November and "My Macmillan plank march", raising a combined total of £405.00 for participation in these two Macmillan challenges.

Frank strayed from their 'personal challenges' theme with the classic cake sales, combined with ice lolly sales throughout the week. The warm weather during Frank's Charity Week meant this stall was especially popular with all year groups, with Frank even selling out of ice lollies some days.



In addition to the week itself, a Lego Masters challenge took place throughout the month, raising money and awareness for the WWF, through a competition to create an endangered animal out of lego. The lego was definitely a hit during lunchtime, strategically located next to the ice lolly stand.

From 'braving the shave', to trying their hand at lego, members of Frank and the school as a whole had the opportunity to involve themselves in a broad variety of events, with the 'personal challenges' theme making this a uniquely engaging, fun-filled week.

Well done to Emma, James, and Mr Rowlands, as well as House leaders for all the hard work that went into the week.



# SPORTS DAY

On the 27th of May, Sports Day took place, with a multitude of field and track events taking place in the morning and everyone coming together onto the field in the afternoon to witness and support an impressive array of events. As usual, everyone was buzzing with house pride and the atmosphere was inclusive and exciting.

There were many highlights of the day, including Mr Keenleyside's last race with us at Roundwood. The scores were incredibly close, but Scott House came out on top, with Cadbury coming overall second and Grey-Thompson overall third.

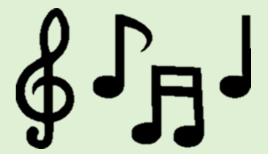
Well done to the PE department and all of the teachers and Sixth Formers who helped out with scoring, handing out medals, and taking on other responsibilities as and when needed and a special thank you to the Extracurricular Captains, Sam, Abdullah, and Issy.



## Results:

- 1st Scott
- 2nd Cadbury
- 3rd GT
- 4th Frank
- 5th Owens
- 6th Mandela
- 7th Wilberforce





## Clubs- Music

On the 24th of June, the Summer Concert took place. The Summer Concert is a place where musicians across the school come together and perform, and is a way of celebrating the talent found within Roundwood. Students had the option of performing solo or in groups of their own choosing, as well as the various music clubs throughout school being given the chance to show off all their hard work.

Performances this year included: the Training Concert Band performing Eye of the Tiger, the Brass Ensemble who performed Summer Nights, and 'The Five'- the group of departing Year 13's who dedicated their performance to the music department, it's fair there were a couple of teary eyes in the audience. The evening was completed by gifts being both given and received by the teachers.

Well done to everyone who performed, despite some strong winds it was a beautiful evening and a perfect way to end the year. Also a massive thank you and well done to all the teachers who were involved in organising and conducting.

*'It was a wonderful evening full of beautiful performances... It was nice to see the year 13's back one for final performance'* A Corran 12M



# Clubs- Sports

Over the last few months, Roundwood's sporting achievements have been nothing but excellent.



“English Schools” recently took place on the 8th of July, with I. Turner winning the junior girls pole vault and becoming the English Schools Champion!

Having never won the County League Cup Final before, the RPS PE Department were blown away by the Under 16 girls becoming the County Champions for athletics.

These impressive performances in U16 Athletics were followed by outstanding successes in the U18 European Athletics competition.



Well done to both current RPS student, Tom Gaunce, and former RPS student, Mia McIntosh in their phenomenal efforts and amazing achievements in the under 18 European Athletics. Tom won a bronze medal and Mia became European Champion for 100m hurdles; Roundwood is exceedingly proud of both of them for representing Great Britain, in addition to our school.

We look forward to the impressive abilities and brilliance of the students at RPS continuing to shine through next academic year :).



**Follow @RPSPE on Twitter for regular PE-related updates and celebrations from the school!**





# PRIDE MONTH

Taking place in June every year, Pride month is a time of year where the LGBTQIA+ community is celebrated. The month is about celebrating diversity, equality and acceptance, as well as the struggle and history of the LGBTQIA+ community.

## What does LGBTQIA+ stand for?

**L**esbian- Women who are attracted to other women

**G**ay- Men who are attracted to other men

**B**isexual- People who are attracted to two or more genders

**T**ransgender- Those whose gender is different to the sex that they were born

**Q**ueer- A previously derogatory term that has been reclaimed by the community, now used as a fluid term

**Q**uestioning- Anyone who is questioning their sexuality- a completely normal and healthy process

**I**ntersex- Those who are born with sexual anatomy that doesn't fit the boxes of 'male' or 'female'

**A**sexual- Those with a lack of sexual attraction towards others

**+** The LGBTQIA+ community encompasses lots of different sexualities, the '+' represents those not in the acronym



## The history of the LGBTQIA+ community

June is Pride Month because it coincides with the anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall Riots. On the Tuesday before the riots began, the Police conducted an evening raid on the Stonewall. Raids on gay bars were common, however this time they fought back. The patrons refused to show identification and resisted being taken away. This quickly led to violence, as people threw bottles at the police, who eventually had to barricade themselves in the bar. The Stonewall riots are a turning point in the history of Pride, they helped spark the movement, and are considered the watershed event that transformed the gay rights movement in the US.

In wake of the Stonewall riots in New York in June 1969, the UK Gay Liberation Front (GLF) was founded in 1970. The GLF fought for the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community, urging them to question the mainstream institutions in UK society which led to their oppression. The GLF protested in solidarity with other oppressed groups and organised the very first Pride march in 1972 (making 2022 the 50th year anniversary).

## Why is Pride Month important?

Pride month is an important way to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community, it promotes inclusivity and diversity, and allows often forgotten historical figures to be celebrated. More than this, it holds society to account, reminding people how damaging homophobia was and still can be. It also reminds us of the fight for equal rights that is still ongoing.

## Figures in the LGBTQIA+ community

You may have noticed the amazing posters put up around school by our diversity and wellbeing captains, featuring members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Here are some influential figures from the community, you might recognise some of the names, if not summer gives you the perfect opportunity to do a bit of research:

- Marsha P Johnson- An American gay liberation activist
- Sylvia Rivera- An advocate for transgender rights
- Alan Turing- A WWII code breaker
- Virginia Woolf- One of the most renowned writers of the 20th century
- Bayard Rustin- An American civil rights activist who advised Martin Luther King Jr
- Frida Kahlo- A Mexican artist

## Coming out stories from our school

“In terms of being queer: I like myself more now that I know I’m lying less, mostly to myself. I’ve surrounded myself with people who understand and make an effort to refer to me the right way and while it doesn’t fix anything, it helps. I am queer and I am trans and I am proud of both.”

“When I found out about the term bisexuality, I knew it was exactly who I am. I’ve been out to my friends for 5 years now and I’m happy with who I am and being there to support my friends who are also LGBTQ.”

“My mum was filling in a form that asked for my pronouns, so she asked and I just told her. I hadn’t planned it but it was a lot easier because the planning process had been longer as a trans person coming out is often harder to understand. But in the end, I’ve had zero resistance, just needed to educate people.”



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

**All political opinions expressed are those of the writers and not the school**

## Roe v Wade

### What is Roe v Wade?

In 1973, the US Supreme Court (the highest court in the USA) ruled that the US Constitution protects a woman's right to an abortion, legalising it across the US. This was due to the legal case Roe v Wade, under which the Court ruled 7-2, that due to the Constitution's 'right to privacy', women should be permitted the choice to get an abortion. This is considered a landmark case as it legalised abortion across the United States, and is seen as a key victory for the feminist movement.

The current US Supreme Court



### Why and how was it overturned?

Since then abortion has become a polarising issue, as both the 'pro-choice' (supporting abortion) and 'pro-life' (anti-abortion) movements have emerged. This clash was emphasised by Donald Trump's 2016 election victory, as he appointed three Supreme Court justices, cementing a 6-3 conservative majority on the Supreme Court.

This majority led to the overturning of Roe v Wade on the 24th June with a ruling of 5-1-3, echoing the impact of Trump's appointments. Thirteen states had passed 'trigger laws' meaning that as soon as Roe v Wade was overturned, abortion was made illegal. In total, 26 states are expected to make abortion illegal.



### What are the impacts?

The decision to overturn Roe v Wade has led to protests throughout the US, as many women were brought to tears at the news, as their right to choose was taken away. Many companies have vowed to provide support and financial assistance to employees who need to travel out of state to get an abortion. It is also important to note that the overturning of Roe v Wade is predicted to hurt women who belong to minority groups most, as their ability to travel out of state is lesser than that of more privileged women. Overall, the overturning of Roe v Wade is a historical landmark in the history of the USA, as the feminist movement is set back 50 years.

## **Boris Johnson**

### **Why did he resign?**

If you've been keeping tabs on the news over the last few weeks you would have seen that Prime Minister Boris Johnson has resigned as leader of the Conservative Party. Months of scandals involving parties, the behaviour of various Conservative MPs, and finally the lies surrounding the appointment of Chris Pincher led to over 60 resignations, forcing Boris Johnson to resign.

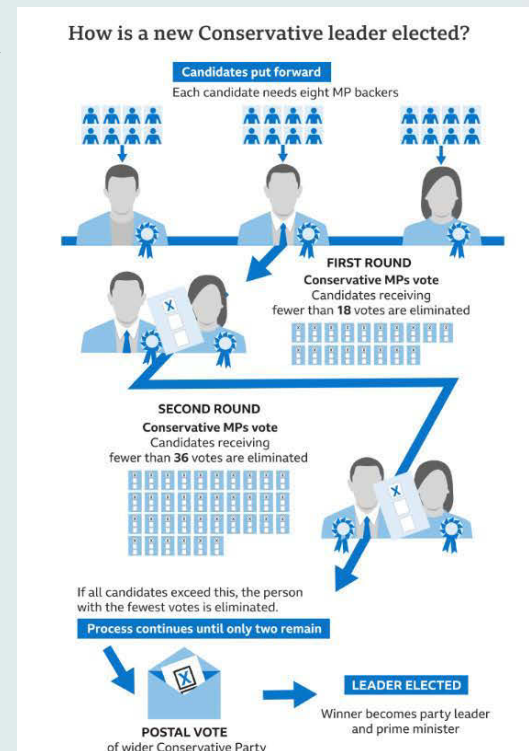
Sajid Javid, the former health secretary, was the first to resign on Tuesday evening, this was followed shortly by Rishi Sunak, the former Chancellor, they both held important ministerial positions, and so this was a bold statement. Wednesday saw over 40 more resignations, a record for a 24 hour period. Significantly, on Wednesday evening a group of senior ministers, including Priti Patel and Michael Gove visit the Prime Minister, allegedly telling him to resign. Johnson however, was not convinced as he sacked Gove, ignoring their advice. Matt Hancock also withdrew his support, saying that he had 'supported him through thick and thin' but he now needed to go.

On Thursday morning, Graham Brady, the chair of the 1922 committee, visited Johnson. Shortly after, it was announced that Johnson would resign as the leader of the Conservative Party, but remain Prime Minister until Autumn to oversee a smooth transition of power.

### **Who's going to become PM?**

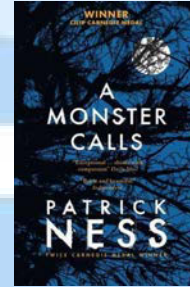
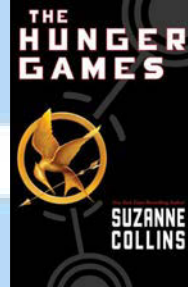
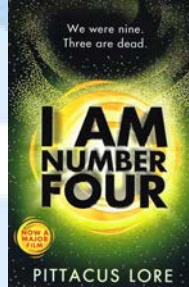
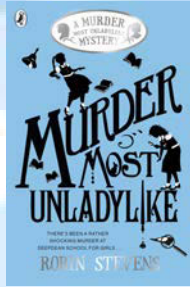
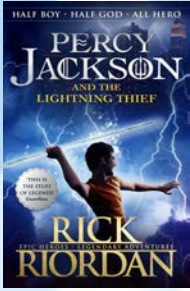
A leadership election has already begun, with three candidates already knocked out. The first televised debate was on Friday the 15th of July, with more scheduled. Make sure to keep up with the debates and votes so you can find out more about who our next PM could be. The remaining candidates are:

- Rishi Sunak, former Chancellor of the Exchequer
- Penny Mordaunt, Minister of State
- Liz Truss, Foreign Secretary
- Tom Tugendhat, MP
- Kemi Badenoch, former Levelling Up minister

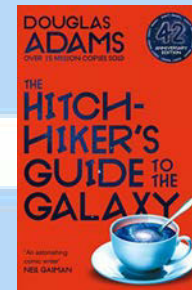
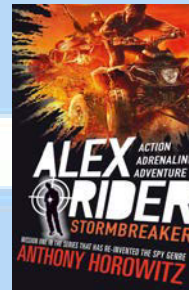
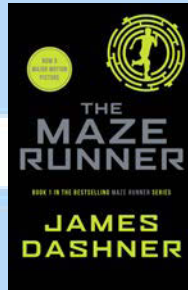
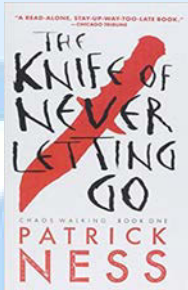


# SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

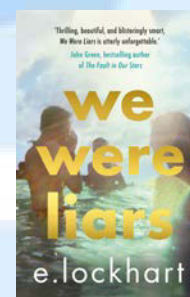
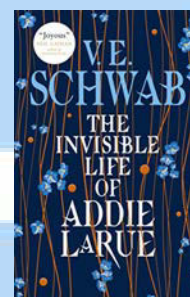
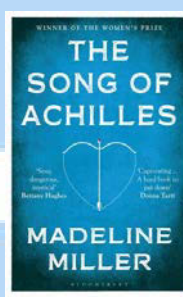
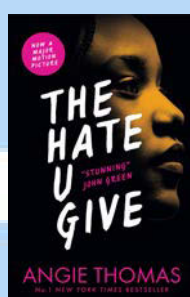
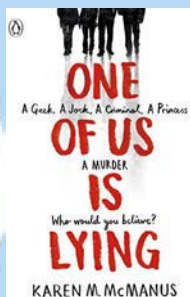
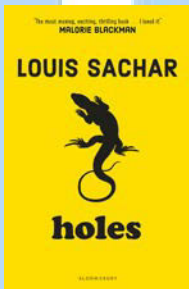
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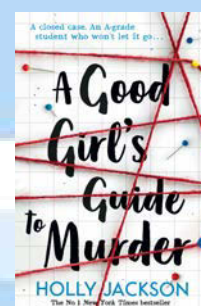
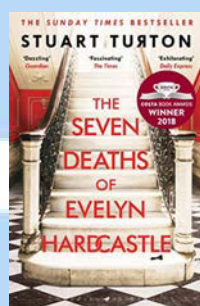
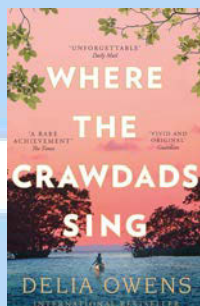
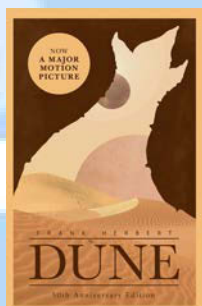
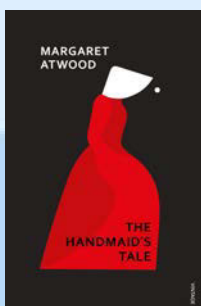
## YEAR 8



## YEAR 9



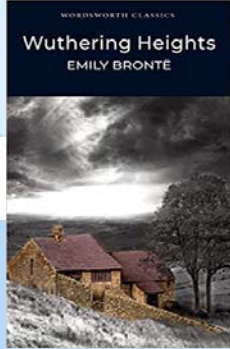
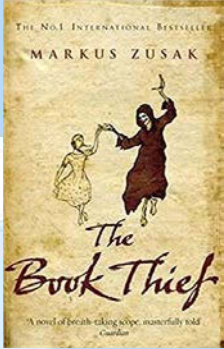
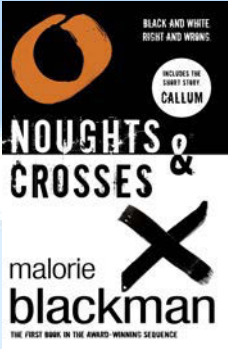
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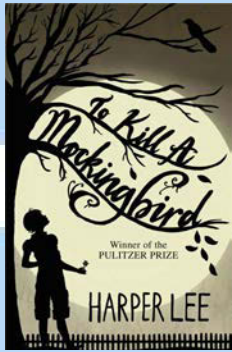
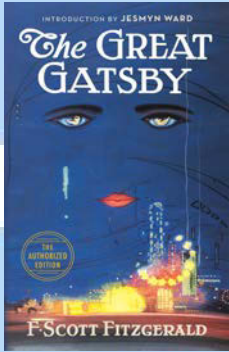
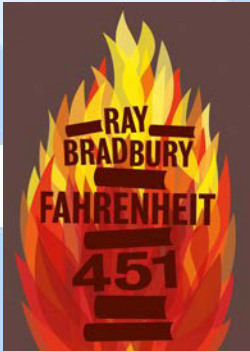
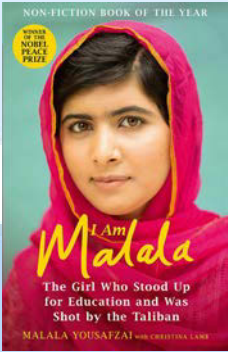
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# CHALLENGE YOURSELF

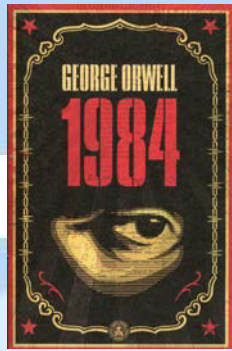
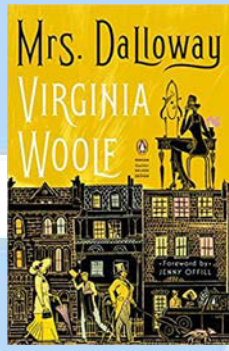
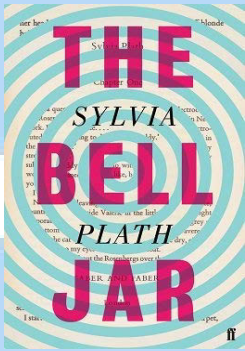
**YEAR 7**



**YEAR 9**



**YEAR 11**



**YEAR 12**

## Local community

As we are aware, the summer holidays are fast approaching and boredom can set in, especially towards the end of the holidays; here are some suggestions of enjoyable ways to spend your time:

### *The Roman Open Air Festival*

Whilst the showing of “you can’t stop the beat’ is now over, there are still multiple upcoming films:

The Wind in the Willows (20 - 24 July)

Twisted Tales (30 July)

Little Women (3 - 14 Aug)



**Ashridge House** is also putting on *screenings* from the 27th of June to the 4th of August, with nine classics to choose from and a cute location to watch them in.

Films include Pretty Woman, Hairspray, Romeo and Juliet, and The Greatest Showman.

**XC** in Hemel provides opportunities for exercise and engagement with new activities, including skating, climbing, and caving.

In terms of younger students, there are lots of supervised sessions, especially on Saturday mornings.

**‘Wibits’** - Inflatable aqua courses located in Hertfordshire are suitable for a range of ages - good for a hot day.



**The legends festival** - Hertfordshire Showground, St Albans on Friday the 29th - Saturday the 30th July 2022.

Great for anyone with an old soul and an interest in music. Multiple artists will have songs played across the two days, including Queen (played by UK Queen)!

### ***More summer suggestions:***

- **Explore London's Street Art** - Leake Street Tunnel underneath Waterloo station is the place to head for street art. More often than not, artists will be working on new pieces as you wander through the covered thoroughfare.
- **Walks/runs/bike rides** - An affordable, valuable way to pass the time and get in some exercise is by meeting up with friends outdoors in your local area. - There are many fields and woods nearby. This is especially great if you have a dog you can bring with you.
- Rummage through **charity shops** in London and the city's best vintage fashion shops: London is a hotspot for second-hand fashion, but there are also many charity shops within Harpenden, all of which are worth taking a visit to.
- Lots of people find **escape rooms** suspense-building, exciting, and rewarding- "Breakout rooms" in Watford are an example. This is an especially great activity for those who enjoy logical thinking.

Lastly, if you or someone you know is in a vulnerable situation over summer, please do not hesitate to reach out. **The Samaritans**, although not specifically marketed at young people, will always take a call. **Childline** will also deal with calls from "older" young people as well as younger children.

Have an excellent summer and we look forward to continuing to write for you and contributing to other events with the SLG next year,

Faith and Josie :)





FOCUS ON A HISTORICAL FIGURE:  
**VIRGINIA WOOLF**



*“Recognised as one of the most innovative writers of the 20th century”*

*“Whose novels, through their nonlinear approaches to narrative, exerted a major influence on the genre.”*

Virginia Woolf, original name (in full), Adeline Virginia Stephen, was born on January the 25th, 1882, London, England and died March 28, 1941.

She not only an incredibly famous writer, but also a renowned feminist figure and member of the intellectual circle known as the Bloomsbury Group. She was also an openly bisexual woman.

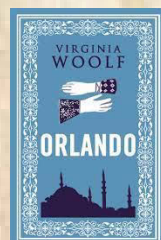
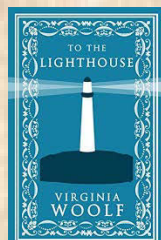
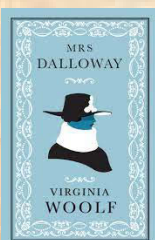
Woolf began writing professionally in 1900, following encouragement from her father. When the Stephen family moved to the bohemian Bloomsbury, in conjunction with the brother’s intellectual friends, they formed the Bloomsbury Group, a circle of politically liberal artists and intellectuals that would go on to alter society.

When her mother died in 1895, a death which was followed by multiple other family bereavements, first her half sister in 1897 and then her father in 1904, Woolf had a nervous breakdown. However, when her brother Thoby then died in 1906, she overcame this through writing and despite her mental health causing her social functioning to suffer, Woolf maintained a drive and passion for literacy.

During the interwar period, Woolf was “an important part of London’s literary and artistic society.” With some of her most famous novels considered to be ‘Mrs Dalloway’ and ‘To the Lighthouse’, Woolf became well-known for using the stream of consciousness as a narrative device, developing a unique brand.

In “A Room of One’s Own”, Woolf explored women’s rights, arguing for access to knowledge and the right to freedom of expression. Her works were presented by many as ‘inspiring feminism’ and led to Woolf being central in the 1970s feminist movement.

Despite Woolf sadly dying of suicide, Virginia Woolf’s perseverance through the mental illness that perfused her life is encouraging and inspiring, not to mention the massive societal imprint she had and the sustained impact of her work on the study of literature today.





# Puzzle page



**Connect These 9 Dots with 4 Straight Lines.**

**How Many Triangles are there?**

**Which number replaces the question mark?**

## Riddles

- 1) What has many keys but can't open a single lock?
- 2) What goes up and down but doesn't move?
- 3) What has many needles but doesn't sew?

## Sudoku

5	3			7				
6			1	9	5			
	9	8					6	
8				6				3
4			8		3			1
7				2				6
	6					2	8	
			4	1	9			5
				8			7	9

1	5		2		9			4
	4				6			
				4			6	3
	7					8		6
6								5
2		8					1	
4	6			8				
			6				7	
8			5		1		4	9

8		6		1				
		3		6	4			9
9							8	1
	8		3	9	6			
7		2		4		3		9
			5	7	2		8	
5	2	1						4
	3		7	5		2		
				2		1		5

## **STUDENT ARTICLES**

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## Should you clean your teeth before or after breakfast?

By E Broadbent and J Lee yr 7

Cleaning your teeth is a daily task that humans do twice a day. It may seem silly to question it, but when you think about it deeper, it raises the question: in the morning should you clean your teeth before or after breakfast? In this argument, **Ella** will be arguing that you should clean your teeth after breakfast and **Jessica** will be arguing that we should clean them before breakfast.

I believe that you should clean your teeth before breakfast. My reason to believe that is while eating breakfast having not cleaned your teeth yet, you swallow all the mouth bacteria that has developed in the night, that would have been washed away if you brushed before breakfast. Do you really want bacteria in your stomach?

Although you may have the opinion that it is bad to swallow bacteria and the germs making their way to your stomach can be harmful, your stomach is designed to break down the bacteria so it has a mild effect on you. Furthermore, brushing your teeth before breakfast allows the food to start to smell in your mouth. This is unpleasant for both you and for the people around you. Some people may think that your mouth will smell after eating lunch and dinner but if your mouth smells at the beginning of day then that puts you on an immediately bad foot.

You may think that brushing your teeth before breakfast makes your mouth smell, but actually, it's the opposite. Harmful bacteria that causes plaque builds up during the night, hence your breath smells when you get up and out of bed. Cleaning your teeth straight after you get up helps to get rid of the bacteria and build up a protective barrier. If you brush after breakfast, the germs from the night and the food from your breakfast wears down your layer of enamel and can damage it. This can also wear down your enamel if you brush your teeth immediately after breakfast, especially if you had acidic food, fruit, pastries or bread.

I know that you may argue that brushing your teeth before breakfast gets rid of all the bacteria but I argue that you then allow more bacteria to grow on clean teeth whilst eating breakfast. This would be solved easily by brushing your teeth after eating because you are essentially killing two birds with one stone by getting rid of two lots of germs in one brush. Brushing later will get rid of food particles that would otherwise get stuck in between your teeth. I know that I would prefer not to have food in my teeth during the day but I may be on my own there. On top of that, brushing before breakfast means that your teeth have to wait even longer for you to

brush them again and to free them of the bacteria. Moreover, for breakfast I personally like to have some juice alongside my food and if I brushed my teeth before breakfast then my juice would taste horrible; how do you expect me to force myself to drink something that tastes so bitter?

I understand why you think that once you eat your breakfast germs build up on your teeth again, but studies have proven this wrong. An experiment that took place proved that children who skipped breakfast were more likely to get cavities than the children who ate a sugary breakfast. This is because when you don't eat, stomach acid washes over the teeth and dissolves the tooth enamel. I also recognize why you think your food will taste bad after cleaning your teeth, but that is only with fruits and juice. To add on to this, you are 'supposed' to clean your teeth the minute you get up so if you wait a little bit before you eat your breakfast, it will not taste bad. On top of that the majority of trustworthy websites, such as Healthline, Noho Dental Group and American Dental Association all agree that you should brush before breakfast.

You might believe that you have only found websites that agree with you but the NHS say otherwise, stating that you are much better off brushing your teeth after breakfast because it removes food particles. Those bits of your breakfast that stay in your teeth leave your mouth with the odd bit of Weetabix here or there. This is unpleasant to experience both as a victim and a witness. Additionally, you can still get decay if you eat your breakfast after cleaning your teeth you're just more likely to get decay from skipping breakfast altogether.

You may feel your opinion is correct, but when I go to the dentist, they also agree that you should brush before breakfast. I would trust them as they are experts in the subject and I've had a one to one account with them. Another piece of evidence proving I am right is the fact that if you brush your teeth first thing in the morning, it boosts saliva production for the day.

To conclude, the timing of when you brush your teeth is completely up to you but we strongly recommend doing it when you wake up as this is more effective in getting bacteria away faster. Your mouth will also be cleaner on the whole and will feel nice and fresh. This has been proven by a selection of dentists and hygienists as well. Thank you for reading our article, we hope you think more about the schedule of your daily tasks now!

## *Sweetest German Desserts*

By A Wright yr 8

Have you ever thought about the fact that a language lesson at school may help you find something to explore in the half term? Well, that's what happened to me... Let me explain:

In German, we have covered a topic to do with food, as any student will have done or will do in future. We were lucky enough to try some examples of foods eaten for breakfast in Germany, learn how to order in restaurants, and much more, but the thing that really got me thinking was one 'Do Now' task... On the internet, we were asked to quickly research some examples of traditional German food, which led us to find things like different types of sausage (bratwurst, leberwurst, knackwurst, etc), or other savoury dishes: all very interesting, but one thing that I found specifically stood out to me was the massive array of cakes and desserts, that I had never seen anything like! Obviously, I just HAD to research what and where I could find them. So, on this list, I'm going to go through my own opinions on the three 'sweetest' (...get it?) looking German desserts that I have researched. (And don't worry, I'll list some recipes and baking sites too!)

### ***1: Bee Sting Cake - Bienenstich Kuchen***

This cake is the first one I discovered, just because of how interesting it is. I mean, even the name has its own folk tales! There are two main legends surrounding the Bienenstich: one, that the original baker was stung by a bee attracted to the sweet honey glaze, the other (significantly more eventful) tells the tale of a group of 15th century bakers that fended off a neighbouring village's raid attempts by throwing whole bee hives at them! Contradictory to the name, this treat is actually not quite a cake- it is really part of a family of yeast-based pastries. Nonetheless, the Bienenstich is a delicious treat, a soft spongy pastry filled with a subtly sweet vanilla creme, and topped with a honey glaze then sprinkled with crunchy almonds.

### ***2: Plum Dumplings- Zwetschgenknödel***

These dumplings are the perfect bite-sized variation of a traditional fruit and cinnamon flavour combination for autumn. The dumpling consists of a tart and sweet plum covered in a quark or 'yoghurt-cheese' based dough. This gives a creamy and crumbly outside that perfectly contrasts with the sour and bold plum taste. Roll them in cinnamon sugar, and serve warm in the evening after dinner or to snack on whenever you feel like it! The boiling process for the dumplings has to be super

precise, otherwise the dough's texture or stability can be completely ruined. Tricky to make but completely worth it when you get them right!

### ***3: Blueberry Baked Cheesecake- Blaubeer Käsekuchen***

This baked cheesecake is packed full of delicious berry goodness, made with a quark-based pastry crust, quark based cream and lots and lots of blueberries! One recipe I found uses over 1 kilogramme of berries. That's a lot of fruit!

The cake is made by creating the crust, laying that in a pan before adding your kilo of blueberries (a tip I found for if your blueberries are too wet, add some cornstarch to the mixture), pouring your cheesecake mixture over the top then baking for a short amount of time. This method results in a creamy, crumbly, fruity cheesecake that looks just perfect for an afternoon coffee.

### ***Recipes!***

Bienenstich:

King Arthur Baking has a really in-depth recipe that is rated highly, they also have many other recipes, including pretzel, buttercream variations and other sweet things. They also have a range of baking appliances and products available on their website.

Zwetschgenknödel:

The Spruce Eats' website has a brilliant recipe for this, although it looks pretty tricky!

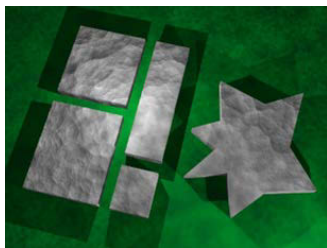
Blaubeer Käsekuchen:

I found an in depth recipe on the site [dirndlkitchen.com](http://dirndlkitchen.com), which also has other flavour variations of Käsekuchen to suit your tastes, like raspberry or even pumpkin!

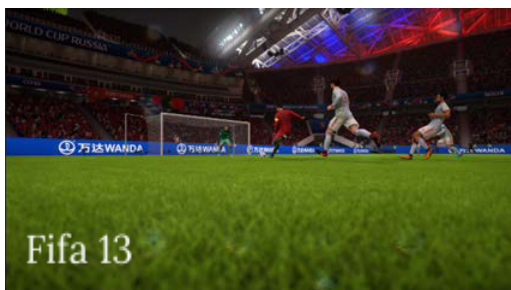
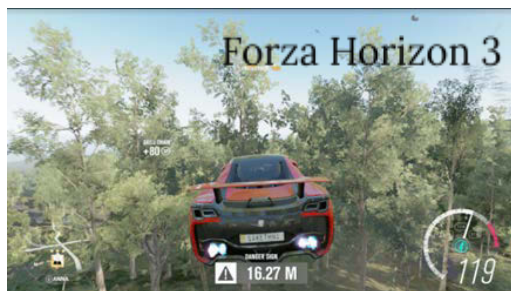
## The invisible maths behind video games

By S Nadiger yr 9- a fellow gamer

Maths and video games – two very different worlds. One full of fantasies, enjoyment, excitement and one that is seen by many as boring, hard and ‘*how will this help me in the future???*’. If this is you, then you will be surprised to find that maths does indeed help you in many places, and some unconventional places as well. Did you know video games are designed by maths and this is what drives all of the graphical and playable designs that are played by millions of gamers worldwide! Think about the last game you played and which map you were playing on. Most of those shapes are geometry, which means the maths of shapes and angles.



Developers, or *devs*, can spend days or even weeks, working on these shapes which can often be graphically beautiful and realistic. A huge amount of probability, trigonometry and game theory, not to mention other very interesting branches of maths, are implemented through what is called an *engine*. Below are some pictures that are real captures from gameplay. They all also include geometry and a huge amount of physics that determine every aspect of the background.



In terms of gameplay, every game has thousands upon thousands of lines of codes and algorithms implemented into it which can affect how the game runs. Using the picture (left) as an example, we can see Cristiano Ronaldo striking a ball, and seconds before it nestles into the top corner of the goal. Consider the animations of the football and the curling and angle that the player shot it at. Consider the goalkeeper's diving animations to attempt to save it, and consider the amount the net moves backwards as the ball hits the back of it. This is only a tiny fraction of what is included. Furthermore, the truly mind-blowing fact is that all of the games above were released more than 5 years ago. This just emphasises the advances in technology and even the advancement of realism and algorithms that make games truly immersive. And maths is the backbone behind all of this. So think about this when you are playing a video game and take a little bit of time to appreciate the maths that is seemingly invisible behind the fun and games.



## The Cost-of-Living Crisis

By J Jewell yr 9

**All political opinions expressed are those of the author and not the school.**

### **What is the cost-of-living crisis?**

The cost-of-living crisis is, well, exactly what it's called: it is a crisis related to the ever-increasing cost of living. Put simply, the crisis is down to increasing prices all over the world which is down to something called inflation.

Inflation is the term that refers to the increasing of prices and can be derived from a variety of factors. The main factor that people think of when they hear the word 'inflation' is when the government starts overprinting money which causes the value of the money to decline as, thanks to the laws of supply and demand, increased supply of money increases overall demand for all goods and services in an economy which, coupled with a constant or still supply leads to the rising of prices and so the decline in value for the currency.

Another reason for inflation may be decreased supply which is largely due to any disruptions found in the supply which increases cost for certain goods which is often passed along to the consumer as each stage of the chain has to increase their price to recoup the extra cost. As pretty much everything is, this crisis can at least partially be attributed to the COVID Pandemic as the original factor which brought huge disruptions to the supply chain as the whole world was shut down. The pandemic also saw various governments introduce reckless monetary policies, particularly in the US where each citizen was given over \$1000 which, only now is starting to show its effects. Perhaps more recently, the Chinese communist party has pushed for a strong 'Zero Covid Policy' which has shut down almost the entire Chinese economy which produces most of the goods that we consume.

The second 'stage' if you will is the increasing costs of energy which have been triggered by cold winters, which saw energy stocks rapidly diminished. This combined with the rapid closure of European coal mines and decreased natural gas flow from Russia has meant everyone around the world has felt the cost of hikes in energy price caps which, while affecting the average household, also pushes up the costs of production and drives up overall inflation.

As the other factors continue to push up inflation, a certain Russian megalomaniac decided to throw a spanner in the works of the global supply chain by pursuing imperialistic ambitions. Ukraine is a large agricultural exporter by nature, it forms a core part of the identity of the Ukrainian people, particularly through the flag which symbolises the yellow crop field and the blue sky. Putin's war has now meant that Ukrainian farmers are otherwise occupied commandeering Russian tanks.

This means that with Ukraine previously being a large agricultural exporter, there is now a significant contraction in supply of agricultural produce and many countries have had to find alternative countries to supply them with crops such as wheat and sunflower oil which, of course, drives up prices. A number of Russian exports have also been blocked and Russia is now withholding natural gas supplies from Europe which will continue to drive up energy prices.

All of these individual factors push up overall prices as if food prices rise, then the general cost of living rises marginally and so other companies producing other products would raise their prices in order to make sure they are charging the same value of money as if inflation is rising at 5% and a serviceman doesn't raise prices for their goods or services, they will no longer be able to afford everything they used to be able to buy with the money they charged.

### **What does inflation mean for you?**

As we have already talked about in this article, inflation will affect you every time you make a purchase meaning that you might end up having to be more careful and aware when you are buying products and think if you really need it or not. Also, just because inflation is measured around 10%, that doesn't mean all goods and services have increased in price by 10%; it is just an average. Bread, in particular, is a very expensive product right now because wheat has become way more expensive. As an example: the price of a 'Crusty White Baton' by Sainsbury's has doubled ever since the start of the conflict in the Ukraine, from 30p to 60p.

The inflation also means that the money that people earn through wages is, although fixed numerically, decreasing in value while companies perhaps cannot afford to increase them. This is one of the reasons why it is being called a 'cost of living' crisis as it becomes harder for people to afford to live because of all the reasons mentioned in this article.

# Hong Kong Desserts

By L Cheung yr 7

There are a lot of different foods in Hong Kong cuisine, but today I'm going to be focusing on Hong Kong desserts.

Hong Kong is known for a lot of different desserts, such as pineapple buns, Tofu dessert, Hong Kong style egg tarts, egg puffs, Hong Kong style French toast, pomelo and sago dessert, red bean soup, black sesame soup, glutinous rice balls and Hong Kong style waffles.



One of my favourite desserts would be the Hong Kong style waffles. A Hong Kong style waffle is a really popular street snack sold by hawkers, there is also another name for Hong Kong waffles, which could also be called “grid cakes” as it was made in a large waffle iron which is cut in 4 quarters. A Hong Kong style waffle is spread with butter, peanut butter, condensed milk and white sugar, it would then be folded in a semi circle and placed in a paper bag. I absolutely adore eating waffles, that’s why I decided to share a recipe here on Park Times!

Preparation time : 20 minutes

Cooking time : 15 minutes

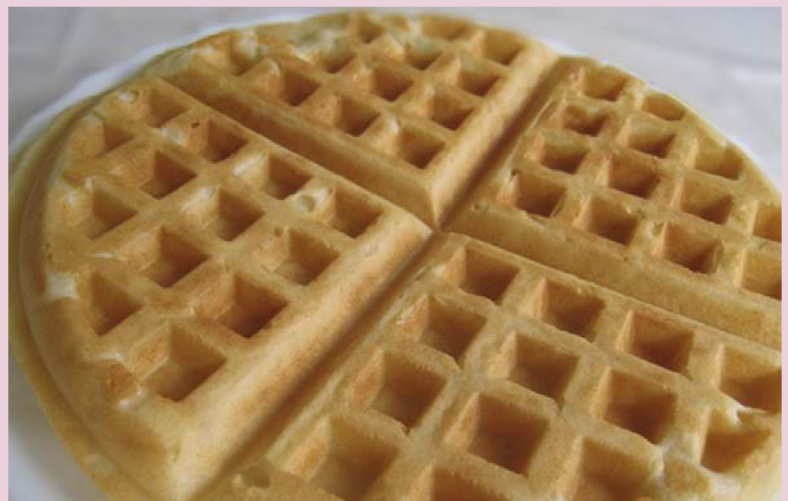
Ingredients

120 grams cake flour	50 grams melted butter
½ tsp baking powder	1 tsp vanilla extract
2 eggs (whisked)	Water (to adjust thickness of waffle batter)
20 grams caster sugar	
½ cup of milk	

1. Stir caster sugar into whisked eggs until dissolved completely. Sift in flour together with baking powder and combine well.
2. Pour in milk. Add melted butter and vanilla extract. Stir well.
3. Sift in flour together with baking powder and combine well. Set aside for 10 minutes.

(Add some water to suit your preferred thickness of batter as the batter would become a bit thicker after setting aside for a while)

4. Pour ½ cup of batter into a preheated waffle iron. Cook until lightly brown.
5. Add in anything you wish to have with your waffles
6. Serve and enjoy :)



Plagiarism  
By A Yip, yr 7

**What is plagiarism?**

Plagiarism is the act of using another person's ideas, thoughts, data or language that are all used without acknowledgement or consent from the original author as the basis for one's own work. There are different types of plagiarism, such as the piracy of text, images, shapes or tables. It applies to publications, essays or electronic versions of research.

Common examples of plagiarism are downloading papers or videos and turning them to be your own ones, copying text from a commercial website for your writing, turning someone else's work as your own, or reusing the words in a book without citing the source.

**History of plagiarism:**

The concept of plagiarism started during the 18th century in Europe, especially during the Romantic Movement (artistic, musical movement). In Europe it was not a crime, but it could be punished in court if the plagiarised object had violated various legal boundaries. For instance, if a person was found guilty of copyright\* infringement, they could be liable for damages.

However, in different countries such as Poland and India, plagiarism was categorised into different types. It was considered a crime, therefore there had been people who were sent to prison for it. Another strange difference was that in some countries, it is regarded as a compliment when plagiarising a professional piece of work.

**True story:**

Now, what I am about to describe is a true story that was told by a teacher Mr Lau, who was an English teacher at my primary school. He inspired me to achieve lots of goals, and correct my mistakes, and now, he is going to inspire you.

One time, when he was marking the writings for his class, he found a student's writing interesting. He thought this student must have improved, but suddenly. He continued to read the rest of the writing, impressed by the abnormally powerful techniques and words, which made him suspicious. The student might have plagiarised some parts, therefore he copied his work onto Google, and something shocked him.

The Wikipedia page literally had every word he “used” and only a few words were different. However, he wasn’t angry, but he felt emotional, and sad for this child. He then spoke to him the next day. The student realised what happened, and he apologised deeply to Mr. Lau.

Mr. Lau understood the situation and told him that everyone makes mistakes like that. He said, “Do not do it next time, it was just a mistake in life, and you should adapt from it. Remember that this is wrong and you must not do it if you want to succeed.”

This sentence inspired this student to start writing excellent compositions, and he became top in the whole year group. Thanks to Mr. Lau, for giving us a valuable lesson.

**To conclude:**

Before he left the school, he told our class to spread his lessons to the world. Now, I have taught you this. In conclusion, you should be imaginative, be creative, be original. Do not plagiarise someone else’s work as your own. If you have done or are still doing plagiarism, stop and you might change your life.

Key word:

Copyright: A right given to the author for a number of years to publish a material.