

## FIRST EDITION



**YEAR 10  
CUP TRIUMPH**



**DIGITAL LEARNING**



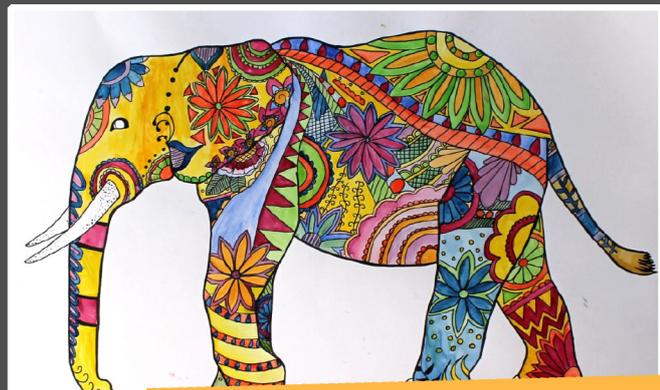
**WORLD WAR I TOUR**



**SCHOOL PRODUCTION**

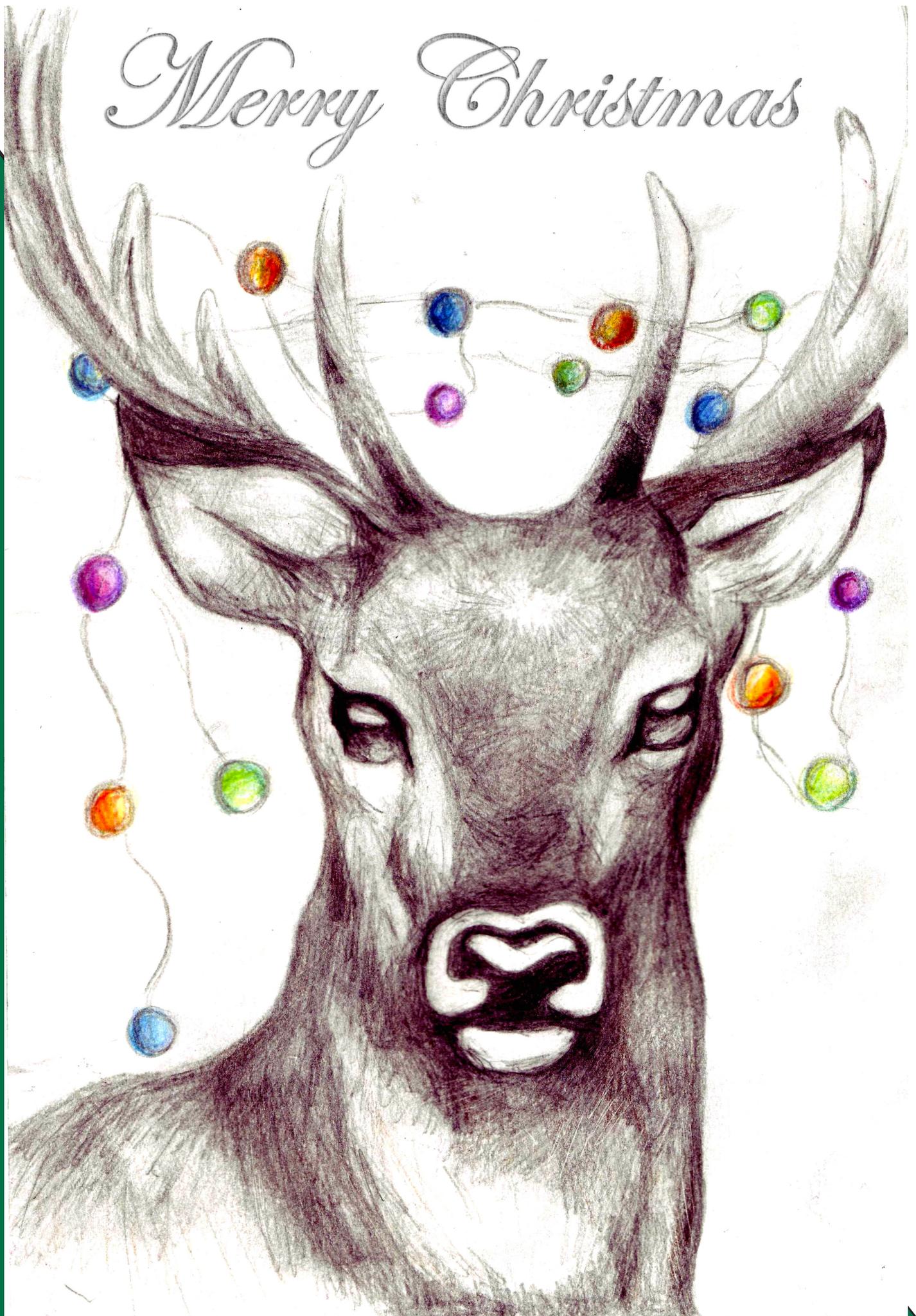


**TEACHER PROFILE**



**FANTASTIC ARTWORK**

*Merry Christmas*





Mr. Roworth pictured with Alexander Slous , Jemima Butler, Mary Bichard , Jessica Shum & Chloe Best

Dear Readers

I am delighted to be writing to you in this, our very first edition of the school magazine. Firstly I wish to thank Miss Fitzpatrick for leading on this project, and of course a special thanks to all our wonderful students who are part of the editorial and news team for this first publication.

In these pages you will read about how our students have been engaging this term with our local community and leading ambitious and challenging activities. My wish is to continue giving students a voice, and a chance to share and celebrate their many talents.

I look forward to seeing how our magazine will grow in both size and quality as our students develop their writing skills and their imaginations for us all to enjoy.

I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous hard work of all our staff this term as they continue to give above and beyond to support students and their families to be successful.

Finally, here's to a lovely Christmas to all members of our school community, may you enjoy your well-earned break with friends and family.

Mr D. Roworth  
Headteacher  
@HVheadteacher



Well done to all Art GCSE students on their very  
creative 10 hour pieces  
Mrs Boccone and Mrs Le Maistre











## WWI TOUR

From Monday 22nd to Thursday 25th June this year, these four specially chosen 'historians' from Year 10, set out on a journey to the World War One battlefields, in northern France and Belgium. This was the first stage of a programme of guided tours organised by the States of Jersey for groups of secondary school children to visit these locations to mark the centenary of the War. As a result of this, we were joined by



four students and one teacher from all of the other Island secondary schools, as well as by the leading 'expert' on Jersey's role in World War One; Ian Ronayne.

### Role of Jersey:

The main aim of the Tour was to provide Jersey school children with an important and relevant experience in visiting the battlefields, the museums, the memorials and the cemeteries of World War One. The main theme within this, however, was the specific focus on the experience of Jersey soldiers who fought in the War. In many ways, Mr. Ronayne has made it his life's mission to transform World War One from being the 'Forgotten War' of Jersey History; and this Tour was another way of doing this. After all, Jersey's role during World War Two is much better known due to the German Occupation. Surprisingly, though, the Island lost nearly four times more dead during World War 1! In fact, more than 6,500 Jerseymen in total served in the armies of Britain and France, with more than 1,600 losing their lives. The emphasis in this Tour was therefore to try to get the Jersey students to understand the experiences and sacrifices of Jersey soldiers by visiting the locations in which they fought and died.

### Student Workbooks:

Keeping with this local theme, at a Pre-Tour Workshop, Mr. Ronayne divided the students into five groups and issued each one with a workbook focusing on the experiences of 5 very different Jersey soldiers during the War. These books described the chosen soldier's life before the War, the battles in which he fought and how he died. Interestingly, not all of them volunteered to fight and not all of them served in the British Army; but their bodies all remain on the Western Front.

- Toussaint Connan was forced to join the French Army. He died in 1915.
- William Bruce joined the British Army before the War. He died in 1916.
- John Vibert joined the 'Jersey Pals'. He died in 1916.
- Wilfred Ching was forced to join the British Army. He died in 1917.
- Alfred Basford joined the Canadian Army. He died in 1917.

## Tour Itinerary

### Day One: Monday 22/06/15

- Ferry crossing from Jersey to St. Malo
- Coach from St. Malo to Amiens (6 hours)
- Overnight accommodation at Amiens

Day One was mainly just a day of travel to north-east France, with Mr. Ronayne introducing what would be happening on the Tour. However, the hotel accommodation in Amiens was surprisingly plush!

### Day Two: Tuesday 23/06/15

#### **Visit to 1916 Somme battlefields:**

The first visit we did was to several of the battlefield sites involved in Britain's biggest military disaster in terms of numbers of men lost; at the Battle of the Somme in 1916. Incredibly, the British bombarded the German lines with one million shells over one whole week and thought they had knocked out the German front line. The soldiers were then told to light their pipes, link arms and walk to the enemy lines as no German would be left alive! However, the Germans were in dug-outs more than 12m deep. After the week of shelling, they simply got back to their machine gun posts and killed or wounded 60,000 British soldiers on the first day alone! 1st July 1916 was the single worst day of casualties in British military history. However, the Generals refused to change their tactics and the Battle continued for 4 more months. In total 460,000 British soldiers were killed or wounded- but they did advance 10 miles on the Western Front!

#### **Visit to Battle of the Somme Museum in Albert:**

The best place we visited telling the story of the Battle was in a museum situated in a tunnel, 10m deep and 250m long, running under the French town of Albert. In these reconstructed trenches, we were able to discover how men faced the enemy, the mud, the cold, the lice, the rats etc. As we left, we passed through an area where the lighting and sound effects made us imagine that we were walking through a 'real' trench, in the dead of night, under artillery fire. It brought home the full horror of the trenches- except we, of course, got out alive!

#### **Visit to 'Jersey Pals' battlefields at Guillemont and Ginchy:**

We next visited two battlefields that hold special importance for the 'Jersey Pals'; a group of 320 volunteers from the Island who stayed together as a unit throughout the War. They arrived two months after the start of the Battle when the Battle was stuck in a terrible stalemate. For seven days, the Jersey men served in the thick of the fighting; firstly holding the village of Guillemont, and then, on 9 September, successfully storming the village of Ginchy. Victory, however, came at a terrible cost; as the Battle reduced the 'Jersey Pals' to only a handful left. John Vibert was one of these dead.

#### **Visit to Newfoundland Memorial Battlefield Park:**

The Canadians also fought with the British on that first day of the Somme and they are so proud of their military effort that they have some of the best preserved memorials. One of those we visited was established in memory of the Newfoundland Regiment who lost a staggering 86% casualties on

that one day alone. The well preserved network of trenches clearly showed how close the enemy armies could be in places; with no man's land in between being only a matter of metres! One single tree survived the destruction in this area; and is now named the 'Danger Tree!'

### **Visit to Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme:**

Our next visit was to the Thiepval Memorial, which is the largest British building of commemoration in the world; 45m high and needing more than 10 million bricks to build it! It has the names of 73,000 missing officers and men of the British Army. One of the saddest aspects of this War, which really came across in this trip, was just how many men were either missing or their bodies couldn't be identified. Only their engraved name was left to recognise the ultimate sacrifice that they made for their country.

### **Visit to Delville Wood South African Memorial:**

Our next stop, Delville Wood, is so important to South Africa that it has actually become their national symbol for bravery and sacrifice. In July 1916, the South African Infantry achieved one of the best victories in the whole of the War. Heavily outnumbered and surrounded on three sides, they still managed to capture these woods which helped to turn the tide of the Battle in favour of the Allies.

### **Visit to German cemetery at Rancourt:**

While we visited several cemeteries during this Tour, seeing the graves of the 'enemy' was a very different experience. In comparison to the British and French cemeteries, this one was badly preserved with very little money and effort put into it. This is rather sad considering that these individual German soldiers had still been forced to fight for their country by their rulers, whether they were the enemy or not.

### **Visit to a Portuguese cemetery:**

Our last cemetery of the day was also quite different, as it came as a surprise to certain members of the group that the Portuguese had fought for the British during the War, including me. While the numbers of their dead were relatively small, I was still proud that my country had played such an important role.

### **Overnight accommodation at Arras:**

Sadly, this time the hotel was not nearly as plush- and we were there two nights!

## **Day Three: Wednesday 24/06/15**

### **Visit to 1917 Passchendaele battlefields:**

The next day we headed further east to visit the memorials to the fighting in 1917 around the town of Ypres on the French-Belgian border. The third Battle of Ypres (otherwise known as Passchendaele) was the last great battle on the Western Front. The town was eventually taken 99 days after the attack began. Again, the cost in lives on both sides was terrible, but this time the Germans could not now afford such massive losses. It was therefore a slight victory for the Allies- but it didn't seem like that to the soldiers fighting in such terrible conditions. Basically, more than half a million casualties on both sides fell for the gain of only 5 miles!

### **Visit to Passchendaele Museum:**

This museum was the most in-depth on the Battle and consisted of 5 parts. Part 1 gave a comprehensive overview of the War in the region. Part 2 re-enacted conditions in a British trench dug-out. Part 3 focused on the events of the Battle itself. Part 4 was called the 'Trench Experience' as it had reconstructed a network of British and German trenches. Part 5 was the 'Hall of Reflection' dedicated to the remembrance of all the victims of the Battle. This last part was the most powerful of all in the museum, as it had a statue of lots of arms and hands just grasping upwards.

#### **Visit to 1917 Canadian Vimy Ridge memorial:**

If the South Africans are most proud of their actions at Delville Wood, then the same can be said of the Canadians at Vimy Ridge. Since the Ridge was a very important part of the German defence system, it was heavily fortified and the French had failed to take it for the past three years. By April 1917, the task was left to the Canadian Corps who achieved this aim, within the first day, thanks to superb planning and training. This memorial is Canada's most impressive tribute to their dead, with 11,000 names of Canadian soldiers whose final resting place is not known.

#### **Visit to Tyne Cot British Cemetery:**

The last cemetery we visited was the biggest of all. In fact, Tyne Cot Cemetery is the largest Commonwealth War Graves cemetery in the world and, every year, over half a million people visit this place of remembrance. There are 12,000 graves of British soldiers but only 3,800 are known by name. The back wall of the cemetery also contains the names of another 35,000 Allied soldiers missing in action in 1917.

#### **Menin Gate ceremony:**

Our final visit was to the Menin Gate ceremony. Every day of the year, at 6 o'clock, they have an act of remembrance where people lay down wreaths in honour of the victims. Two of our students did this on behalf of the dead soldiers from Jersey.

## Pirates

Everyone knows what a Pirate is! Well they think they know what a pirate is... Most haven't actually been taught about these very mythical people. This article will aim to answer any thoughts that pop into your head and will hopefully encourage you to want to know more about these infamous people! When people hear 'pirates', they think of rough sailors with ragged clothes, drinking rum! However people's views have changed hugely since the time when they were the "Rulers of the Seas!" In the past, pirates would walk down the street with lit fuses on their hats and they would terrify people back into their homes! Now this is outdated and now people think of pirates as the ones who commit a theft or crime. The real meaning for pirate is someone who commits a crime while at sea! So kids, if you want to become a pirate, steal your dad's hat when you are on a boat trip and you'll become one! Not all pirates are pirates! Vikings are classified as pirates. However, when we think of a pirate, we don't usually picture a man with an axe with two horns sticking out of his helmet. Vikings were long before the pirates we know. Pirates go back centuries. The period in which they caused the most mayhem and spread the most panic was between the 16th century and the 18th century. This is when ships began developing and people began transporting goods through ships.

Everyone has heard of the terrifying, trembling and untameable, BlackBeard! He is one of the most well-known pirates ever! He was one who walked down a street and would have frightened people back into their homes! His filthy black beard would have fuses lit depending on his mood. If they were lit, you would definitely not want to get in his way! Those who didn't get in their homes quickly

enough, would have to face BlackBeard where they would go off with him for a 'long journey' to his ship! Those innocent victims caught by BlackBeard would probably never return and usually never be heard of again. As no one has ever come back alive; they can't tell us what happened!

Back to the facts, BlackBeard was known for his big black beard as all the months of sailing had made his beard grow! He lit the fuses on the end of his beard and on his captain's hat to demonstrate fear, to terrorize people, so that they would remember the name "BlackBeard". He did have a peg leg because he lost his leg because of diabetes. Surprisingly he had no murder records. He must have used them as slaves/crew for the ship or he must have traded them for goods!

Finally, let's talk about how they looked and let's see if it matches your description of them. Pirates wore worn fur jackets (usually from their hunting trips), with a shirt inside. They wore boots and had baggy trousers to keep them comfortable throughout the long trips they made in hopes of becoming rich! Pirates didn't have a luxury cupboard with plenty of different clothes inside; they were usually stuck with one outfit. They may have had a new set of clothing if they managed to hunt something suitable for clothing- but they usually sold it so that they could buy rum!!! They believed wearing an earring improved their eye-sight. This probably proves why the lookouts had so many piercings! Some ships may have had a Jolly Roger as the flag but most just had a simple and cheap black flag. This was meant to warn others about their presence and to spread fear!

*Daniel de Andrade*



Hi, we're the Digital Leaders  
 The Digital Leaders started in October last year, and since it has grown and developed. Students were told about the new opportunity to become digital leaders and would have to fill out an application form. Then a few applicants were shortlisted and invited for an interview. Following this, the first Digital Leaders were appointed. Since then we have had many notable achievements. One of these was the 'Inspire' session. Which happened in April and students and teachers from different schools in Jersey met here at Haute Vallée School to share their experiences with technology.

## Apple School

We have chosen Apple devices for our digital devices as they are efficient and compatible with many other devices including our school computers. As Digital Leaders we use Google Apps and they run great on iPads. As for this we have had two Digital Leaders

have participated in an Apple Event (Tom Hughes & Luke Robinson) to show what we use them for and how we use them.

## OpenROV

The Digital leaders have also won the OpenROV which is an underwater robot. A professional engineer comes to the school to help us build it. The robot goes underwater, it can help with research and it has a HD camera to capture underwater footage of marine animals or plants we are going to put all our effort into this project for the future. If you have any suggestions about any project we could do with the robot contact us at: [digitalleaders@hv.sch.je](mailto:digitalleaders@hv.sch.je)

## Tech Fair

The digital leaders took part at the tech fair. We had our own stall on the first day on the event, we showcased our journey as Haute Vallée Digital Leaders. We offered people who came to our stand a chance to win a £50 iTunes voucher which attracted people to our display and listened to us talk about our journey. We had teachers and students from other schools who we inspired and they told us that they were impressed and had taken away ideas to use themselves in their own schools. We also displayed our journey to small digital businesses who had taken interest into us and also a couple of teachers from different schools.

*Tom Hughes*

## Mr . Mortimer interview...

### **How would you describe yourself?**

Passionate, enthusiastic and a bit of a party animal!

### **Do you have any hobbies?**

Singing, socialising with friends and family and walks with Teddy.

### **Why did you become a teacher?**

I want young people to have an opportunity to develop their talents for drama/theatre and to improve their confidence. I got a lot from drama at school.

### **What were you like as a kid?**

I was shy (believe it or not), singing all the time and always rehearsing for shows outside of school.

### **What do you find rewarding to be a teacher?**

Seeing a student change in confidence, improved self-esteem and unlocking their creative potential.

### **Acting roles?**

Before I became a teacher I went to Mountview Theatre School for three years of training. I moved to Musical Theatre and I worked on that for 5 years. A few of my favorite roles were; Seymour in Little Shop of Horrors; Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream; Eugene in Grease, and Jesus in Jesus Christ Superstar.

### **When did you realize your love for drama/theatre?**

Ever since I was 10 years old, I performed in a local production of Oliver. I've had the bug ever since!

### **New role in 'Les Misérables'?**

The JADC are performing the musical Les Misérables next July at the Jersey Opera House. I went along to audition and after three auditions in the space of a week, I was offered the role of Jean Valjean. I'm excited to begin rehearsals in April.

### **What were the auditions like (Les Mis)?**

They were quite scary, it was like auditioning for a professional show again, they kept us on our toes. As part of my audition I had to perform three of Jean Valjean's big songs to an audition panel.

### **Role model and why?**

I aspire to teach as well as my music and drama teachers taught me when I was at school.

### **What advice would you give students or tips?**

Don't be afraid of what anybody else thinks, if something makes you happy, whether that's drama,



music, dance, sport, whatever it is - then go for it!

**School productions, favourites?**

It's really hard to choose, but, I enjoy the Pantomimes because of the set and costumes; Jack and the Beanstalk was a highlight because of the professional inflatable beanstalk, cow and giants costume, which really wowed the audience.

**Any performances gone wrong?**

A last minute curtain track. We were performing Oliver for a Primary school audience. On the opening day of the performance, a company were installing the curtain track during the interval!

**Favourite movie?**

X-men, I love all the X-men movies.

**Favourite actor?**

Hugh Jackman, because he's versatile, in the sense that he trained in theatre and began his career on the stage, before making a successful transition to screen acting.

**Favourite colour?**

Blue

**Best holiday?**

A very difficult choice, a close second to a Florida holiday with family was a trip to New York and Aruba with close friends and colleagues from school. Driving down the west coast of California was also a great trip last year.

**Pets?**

Dog called Teddy who is two years old.

**First ever job?**

Working in a warehouse putting plugs onto hairdryers for a friends business, I did that for four years during school holidays.

**Worst ever job?**

A doorman at a very upmarket luxurious hotel in London. It was boring because very few guests came and the job consisted of saying hello and putting them in a lift to the reception.

**Favourite City?**

New York City because it's vibrant and as you walk around the Broadway theatre district there is a real buzz. I have just booked a trip to catch up with friends who live there and to see the new musical "The Colour Purple", which stars Jennifer Hudson.



## Connie Stapleton's (Annie's) profile

Hello, I'm Connie Stapleton (Annie) from this year's performance. I'm 12 years old and I'm in year eight. Becoming Annie was great but a bit of a shock too. My nanny encouraged me to try out as Annie but I wasn't too keen. After a while of thinking I auditioned singing 'Maybe' & 'Tomorrow' and they told me to let them have a think. The day suddenly dawned... I was in the theatre listening for somebody's name to be called out for 'Annie' but my name was called out! I was stunned because I honestly did not expect it! I was so pleased! A week after the good news we attended our very first rehearsal and it was fun, but as the weeks went on and on I felt very tired. After a lot of rehearsals and a lot of singing we performed our very first show, it was amazing. The effort really shown on us and I enjoyed every moment! The very last show had shown real emotion to everyone, especially the year eleven's because it was their last show...which also contained champagne, dog toys and tears!

Overall the show was a success and I hope you enjoyed reading this and watching the show. I was very happy with the comments that people made about the show and I'm really looking forward to next year's school production! I would advise everyone to have a go and audition, even if you think you won't get a part. I didn't think I would get a role, however I auditioned and got the main part.. With a little support from the family. So if you don't think you're the best singer or dancer, give it a go and you never know what you can achieve if you don't try.

## Interview with Connie Stapleton (Annie)

### **How did you feel when you got the part of Annie?**

I did not really expect to get the part, it was very overwhelming.

### **Would you like to take part in the oncoming productions?**

No, because it was a lot of time and work, it took too much of my time.

### **Do you have any ideas for the next production?**

Frozen, because there is a lot of singing in the movie and there is a lot of talent in our school.

**What was your favourite night that you performed?**

The last night because there were a lot of people there to support everyone.

**What was it like performing in front of an audience?**

It was scary the first night, but then after a few nights it was fine.

**What was it like rehearsing with the dog?**

Annoying at the start, but the dog (Sandy) was very well behaved.

**Did you find it hard to do an American accent?**

No not really because I watch a lot of Disney Channel so it's really fun to do.

**What was your favourite song in Annie?**

"Hard knock Life" because it was the sharpest dance/vocal performance.

**Was Annie the first production you have ever done?**

Yes.

**Did you enjoy the production overall?**

Yes, I really did it was fun to join in!

**What did you have to do for your audition?**

I had to sing "Maybe" and "Tomorrow".

*Lucy Kent & Ellie Gregory.*



## Christmas in Poland

In Poland we celebrate our Christmas very differently than in Jersey or England..

In Poland we eat 12 different meals at Christmas, that are all different types of food, for example we have main dinners and soups etc. We also open our presents at different times, in Jersey, people usually open their presents in the morning when they wake up but in Poland we open our presents before we go to sleep. In Poland it also snows mostly every year which makes it even better!

*Wiktoria Jaskot*

## Christmas islands

The Christmas islands are a small sparsely populated island in the southern Indian Ocean. With a population of around 2,000 people.

This island doesn't seem very unique but on Christmas Day it seems like you're in another world. So it starts off as normal waking up and opening presents; like the majority of the world but at around 10 o'clock the families part and the men take to their fishing boats and go on a 3 hour fishing excursion to gather the food for the feast for later on. Since it's the summer in that part of the world during Christmas this makes it ideal time for fishing, the sea is calm and warm so it attracts many fish.

Whilst the men are gathering dinner, the women of the island are carefully weaving beautiful dresses for the dinner.



As the men come back in from fishing they are met by their families and now the feast is ready to commence. The majority of the island meets in the capital of flying fish cove. The meal goes on late into the night and overall the people have a marvelous time.

Many describe the atmosphere as a sensationally and exclusive to that island.

*Jay Leverick*

## Christmas in Australia

In Australia, Christmas comes in the middle of the summer holidays! It's really hot at Christmas in Australia.

Australians celebrate Christmas by hanging wreaths on their front doors and decorate their houses and gardens with Christmas trees and Christmas lights. Australians also decorate their houses with bunches of 'Christmas Bush', a native Australian tree.

Most families try to be home together for Christmas and the main meal is normally eaten at lunch time. Most people now have a cold Christmas dinner, or a barbecue with seafood such as prawns and lobsters along with the 'traditional English' food. Australians often have Christmas Crackers at Christmas meal times.

When Santa gets to Australia he gives the reindeer a rest and uses kangaroos!

On Boxing Day most people go and visit their friends and often have barbecues at the beach.

*Mia Carnegie*

## Christmas in the Philippines

People in the Philippines like to celebrate Christmas as long as possible, the playing of Christmas carols in shops start in September and the formal Christmas activities start on the 16th of December when many people go to the first of nine pre-dawn or early morning masses.

In the Philippines the early masses held before Christmas are called the “Misa de Gallo” or “Simbang Gabi” in Filipino.

Most Filipinos are Christians, about 80% are Catholics because Philippines is populated with so many Christians, Christmas is the most important holiday in Philippines.

December in Philippines is actually one of the “cooler” months of the year in the Philippines, Philippines only has two seasons wet, June to October and dry, April and May. December is one of the months that is actually in-between wet and dry.

Philippines have their own Christmas traditions one of them is called parol where which is a bamboo pole or frame with a lighted star it is traditionally made from bamboo stripes and coloured Japanese paper or cellophane paper, it is the most popular decoration in Philippines.

People in the Philippines also stay up all night on Christmas eve until Christmas day, During Christmas eve evenings people go to church to hear the last “Simbang Gabi”

The Philippines have 8 major languages here are ways to say merry Christmas in Filipino:

In tagalog Happy/Merry Christmas is ‘Maligayang Pasko’ in Ilonggo it’s ‘Malipayon nga Pascua’; in Sugbuhanon or Cebuano it’s ‘Maayong Pasko’; In Bicolano they say ‘Maugmang Pasko’ and in pangalatak or pangasinense they say ‘Maabig ya Pasko’ or Magayagan Inkianac

What is it like in the Philippines?

The Philippines has a very hot climate, with the picturesque countryside to the busy but lively cities. Whenever there is a celebration you should expect the best from the Philippines, because when it comes to the Filipinos they go all out with clothes, parades, masks, music and they even have fairs.

One of the biggest nationwide celebrations is called ‘Sinulog’ and the whole country joins in, I’ve experienced the celebration first hand where I had to wear masks and watched a parade. The streets were all shut so the traffic was worse, but worth it to see the parade coming through.

*Lance Luther Bation*

## Christmas in Uganda

Christmas is called Sekukkulu in Uganda and is celebrated on the 25th of December.

Everything stops for Sekukkulu, Hospitals start discharging patients to go home except for those who have serious conditions, most government bureaucrats take their holiday break from almost the middle of December to the second week in January. All official business grinds to a halt. With the arrival of Sekukkulu, the prices of food and other goods become incredibly high and the crime rate also increases.

Sekukkulu, the birth of Jesus Christ, begins on the 24th of December with a “watch night” service. They do not use candles but the church is well lit, richly decorated and the service



includes many Christmas carols. The real holiday cooking starts on the night of the 24th after the service. During the morning of Sekukkulu, the church is filled to full capacity; even people who never go to church end up attending church on this day. According to most people in Uganda Sekukkulu is a joyful time!

Here is a quote from a man who grew up in Uganda:

Tony: During my childhood my mom would buy shoes and clothes 3 weeks before. We normally would eat meat and rice. At that time we only ate meat on holidays. Now it's different; Gulu is developing and people can eat meat and buy clothes anytime they want. Christmas is the day young people like me can organize a party and celebrate from Christmas to New Year's.

This is what another Ugandan said about Sekukkulu:

In my family the Sekukkulu plans started almost in the month of October when my mother starts pointing out which chickens would be slaughtered on Sekukkulu. Those chickens were coddled to make sure that they were nice and fat for Sekukkulu. Chicken plays a central role in the Sekukkulu feasting. Families that couldn't afford chicken any other time somehow would find a way to purchase chickens for Sekukkulu. The news that somebody cannot afford chicken on Sekukkulu is met with great sadness. The process of getting ready for Sekukkulu and preparing the meal is not a chore, but a joy. Love is the major ingredient.

*Harvey Soup*

## Thanksgiving in America

In the United States they celebrate Thanksgiving, which is an important festival and national public holiday that takes place on the second Monday of October in Canada, and on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States. Thanksgiving is all about appreciating what you have and being thankful, but it was originally celebrated as a day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year.

### Traditions of Thanksgiving celebrations

They traditionally eat and serve pumpkin pie, squash soup and of course turkey with stuffing and cranberry sauce. These all remain popular as well as a whole range of other vegetables and much more.

Some families include breaking the turkey's wishbone as part of their celebrations. The wishbone is found attached to the breast meat in the turkey's chest. After the meat has been removed and the bone has gone dry and brittle, two people each take one end of the wishbone, make a wish, and pull! Whoever ends up with the larger part of the bone hopefully gets their wish.



## Top 15 fascinating facts you didn't know about christmas

### Number 15: The flying reindeer

In the MYTHS and legends of the Old Norse (North) countries of Scandinavia, many of their heroes and gods travel across the skies in flying chariots

### Number 14: The fairy at the top of the tree

Of course, the thing about the fairy at the top of the Christmas tree is that it isn't supposed to be a fairy at all but an angel. There are many angels in the bible and, in the nativity story, the Angel of the Lord appears before the shepherds to tell them of Christ's birth.

### Number 13: The Star

The star at the top of a Christmas tree represents the star which, according to the Bible, appeared above the stable in Bethlehem where Christ was born. One theory is that the 'star' was really a bright comet, but astronomers have no record of any being around the time Christ's birth.

### Number 12: Advent calendars

Older people often complain that they don't like these 'new-fangled' advent calendars with chocolate behind each door, but prefer the traditional ones that simply have pictures.

### Number 11: Turkey Dinner

What could be more traditional than a roast turkey for Christmas? That's a tricky one to answer because, although turkeys have been around for a long while, their popularity has gone up and down when it comes to Christmas.

### Number 10: Mince Pies

Mince pies have been a part of Christmas fayre for a long time, but have been through two major changes. The first is their shape. What originally made mince pies a traditional part of Christmas was that they were baked to look like Christ's Crib.

### Number 9: Christmas pudding

Nowadays, most Christmas puddings are the shape of the upturned basin- often red plastic- that they're steamed, boiled or microwaved in. Yet pictures of traditional Christmas puddings often show them as round as a football!

### Number 8: Christmas Cards

It is hard to imagine Christmas without sending or receiving Christmas cards. Exchanging illustrated greetings on special occasions dates all the way back to the time of the roman's and ancient Egyptians.

### Number 7: Christmas Carols

The word 'Carol' actually means a 'ring- dance': dancing in a circle. People used to dance in church as well as sing, often holding hands in a ring of people (sometimes around a pillar). Of course, this was banned by the puritans like everything else that might have seemed too much like fun and not enough about prayer.

## **Number 6: Coming down the chimney**

Father Christmas probably started coming down the chimneys early in the 19th century when most houses still had working fireplaces. Delivering present on a sleigh pulled by flying reindeer meant that rooftops were the easiest place to land and chimneys way into locked houses.

## **Number 5: The Christmas tree**

In winter, when most trees are bare, fir trees are covered in bright green needles. By bringing them into the house we're bringing in a little feeling of new growth and summer. By decorating the tree with tinsel and baubles we're adding blossom and fruit.

## **Number 4: Candles**

In the days long before electricity, candles were the main source of light in most homes. In Victorian times, tiny candles were placed on Christmas trees to make them look even more magical (whereas, today most of us use fairy lights).

## **Number 3: Father Christmas**

If Christmas Day is supposed to celebrate the birth of Christ, where does Father Christmas fit into all of this? Why does he choose Christmas Eve to bring children presents? The clue lies in his other name: Santa Claus' and is short for Saint Nicholas. Saint Nicholas- before he became a saint- was a bishop in MYRA (in what is now Turkey). He was born around AD 270 and became well known for giving gifts to the poor anonymously. (He didn't leave a note or stay around for the 'thank you'.) He often slipped into their homes at night, leaving gifts in shoes or stockings... or so the story goes.

## **Number 2: Hanging up Stockings**

When Saint Nicholas was a bishop in MYRA, he used to leave gifts for the poor. Often, he would slip into their houses unseen at night and hide the presents of food or money. He would throw gifts through an open window or perhaps, even down a chimney. According to legend, one of Saint Nicholas's favourite hiding places for gifts was in shoes or stockings.

## **Number 1: Mistletoe**

If you stop and think about it, kissing under mistletoe is one of Christmas's strangest traditions. Like so many Christmas customs, pre-Christian ceremonies. According to Norse myth, Balder, the god of light was killed by an arrow made from a thick stem of mistletoe, fired by his own blind brother (who was tricked into doing so). Balder's mother, the goddess Frigga, then seized the remaining mistletoe and planted it up a tree so that it would never touch the ground again and do harm to others

*Tiago De Gouveia*

## Inter House Swimming Gala

The Inter House Swimming Gala was an excellent success. AL were the champions for the 3rd time in succession and their swimming squad was well managed by House captains Lauryn Sutcliffe and Alfie Pih. Runners up this year were GU. Congratulations to all those students who took part and made it such a spectacle. There was a total of 37 events in disciplines such as Breaststroke, Backstroke and Frontcrawl. The culmination of the day was the relay events which were closely fought. AL House won the Year 7 and Year 11 relay as well as the Senior Elite Relay (students selected from Years 10 and 11). HE won the Year 8 relay, GU won the Year 9 Relay and LI won the Junior Elite Relay (students were selected from Years 7,8 and 9).



### Final Standings

1st Alderney House	312 points
2nd Guernsey House	298 points
3rd Herm House	260 points
4th Brecqhou House	252 points
5th Jethou House	234 points
6th Lihou House	186 points

One school record was broken with the Alderney Year 7 Relay squad setting a new time of 1.25.47. Congratulations to all swimmers and House Captains who made the event such a success.

*P.E.Department*

## Unusual Sports

### Cheese Rolling

The Cooper's Hill Cheese-Rolling and Wake is an annual event held on the Spring Bank Holiday at Cooper's Hill, near Gloucester in England. It is traditionally done by and for the people who live in the local village of Brockworth, but now people from all over the world take part. This event is traditional. Until recent years, it was managed in a semi-official manner, but since 2010 the event has taken place without any management whatsoever. From the top of the hill a 9 pound circle cheese is rolled, and competitors start racing down the hill after it. The first person over the finish line at the bottom of the hill wins the cheese. Like most unusual sports, cheese rolling is becoming more and more popular rapidly, and will soon probably be as popular as rugby or tennis. To make the cheese still edible and to reduce casualties from the event, they roll a fake cheese down the hill, then give the winner the real cheese at the end of it. the only equipment needed is the cheese and possible the barricades for the crowds watching the sport. 'No real cheese was harmed during this event, only the fake cheese was harmed'.

*Jonathan Coomer*

### Bossaball

#### Introduction:

My unusual sport is called Bossaball, Bossaball was originated in Spain and conceptualized by Belgian Filip Eyckmans in 2004. It is now played globally in places like Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Turkey, Netherlands, Spain, Germany, France, Switzerland, Portugal, Greece, Slovenia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Romania, Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Singapore, Chile, Ecuador, Venezuela, Paraguay and even in the snow at 2000 meters in the mountains of Austria.

#### How to play:

Each team consists of four or five players. The height of the net can be adjusted for professionals, men, women or children. One player (the attacker) is positioned on the trampoline, the others around him/her on the inflatables. A player from the serving team (the server) throws or kicks the ball into the air and attempts to hit the ball so it passes over the net on a course such that it will land in the opposing team's court (the serve). The opposing team must use a combination of no more than five contacts with the ball to return it to the other side of the net (six touches for recreational games). Players are not allowed to touch the net and always have to remain with at least one body part on their own side.

*Wendy Maora Yr8*



## VICTORY!

Year 10 boys were crowned champions after their a brilliant 3-2 win against Le Rocquier School. In the first 5 minutes the Haute Vallee boys managed to have full possession and keep on the ball. Whilst Jude Courval had some excellent kicks across the goal, Filipe saved some phenomenal goals. Despite a speedy ball coming in and a goal for Le Rocquier, the boys managed to stay positive and were determined to score more goals in order to become the mighty champions. Determined not to let any Le Rocquier goals in, the defence stayed strong and Kieran Le Motte had a strong performance. Alex Moniz and Daniel De Sousa had some brilliant clearances. Tommy Ward equalizing the match to 1-1 with a chip over the goalkeeper. The boys are still going strong and determined to win. Outstanding defence by Kieran Le Motte and Daniel De Sousa. Tommy Ward at it again, bottom corner goal making it go to 2-1. The defence must not be forgotton, Jack Happer was a brilliant left back, despite missing a goal he had an outstanding performance. Well done Jack. An amazing goal from Jude Courval, free kick taken hit bottom corner and went flying through. 3-1. Le Rocquier came bouncing back with another goal but wasn't enough to win against Haute Vallee. Well Done Boys for the 3-2 win.

*Felicity Flinders*

## Football, Facebook and Failing

Teens in this day and age are put under a lot of pressure from a lot of different things. Social media, GCSEs and body image seem to play the biggest parts in our lives nowadays.

### Body Image

I'm sure you've read about this a lot recently but it's true, images these days don't seem to be completed without a little bit of the hellish magic of photoshop, these altered images lead teens and even children to believe that they aren't good enough, that they are too ugly and that they would be good-looking if they had bulging biceps or cheekbones that are so sharp that they could cut someone. So what do these teens do? They lose self esteem, develop eating disorders and a spectrum of self image issues which force them to do all the sports and starving they possibly can.

### Social Media

Social media is used every day by practically every teenager in Britain sure Facebook keeps you updated on news topics and how your friends are getting on, but do you really need to know what they had for breakfast or what they are doing at any given moment? I think we both know that we don't, although if you enjoy it or want to, it's nice to have the ability to. In the past five years social media has been revolutionised by the vanity fuelled selfie which now fills webpages with false lashes and winged eyeliner. I think the name 'Face' book is being taken too seriously.

### GCSEs

If only there was a GCSE on procrastination but even then I think I would somehow avoid revising for the exam is revising even a real thing or is it just a myth that is whispered in school corridors. We are never taught how to revise we are just expected to do it. As if teachers trying to cram as much information into our brains in one hour sessions of agonising boredom wasn't stressful enough, we have to regurgitate the information onto an exam sheet at the end of the dreadful year.

Trust me it is hard being a teenager in the 21st-century, so please don't try to make it any harder, thank you for reading.

*Steven Andrade*

## It's Panto Time! Oh Yes It Is!

This year's pantomime at the Jersey Opera House is Dick Whittington and stars several past and present students. Ryan Williams, who left in 2010, plays the title role opposite Katie Daniel who plays Alice Fitzwarren. She played Dorothy in the school production of Wizard of Oz. Also in the cast is Ryan Marett who played Oliver in the school production and current student Ethan Moyse.

They will be appearing at the Jersey Opera House between 18th December and 2nd January.

*Mr. Walkinshaw*

## Chris Gardner-Inspiration

Chris Gardner is the author of a very sad and famous autobiography called “The Pursuit of Happiness”. He is one of my heroes, he told us to never give up even when everything goes wrong. His story started as quite a poor man originally with a 5 year old son and a wife. Chris Gardner had invested his entire life savings in portable bone-density scanners, which he demonstrates to doctors and pitches as a handy quantum leap over standard X-rays; however, he very rarely sold any. He would everyday, from early in the morning until quite late in the evening go round and try and sell these to doctors. One day despite his shabby clothes he went to an interview to try and get an internship. He got one and had to compete against 20 other people for this job. His wife left them. She hated being poor so she left and Chris was left with his son Chris Jr. He then found out he now had no money in his bank account but he would do anything to get a good job for him and his son. They ended up homeless and that night they had to sleep in a toilet cubicle with toilet paper to keep them slightly warm. Other days they had to stay in a homeless shelter. Chris Gardner desperately wanted a better life so he tried and tried. One day he found one of his old scanners that someone stole at a hotel. He managed to fix it and sell it to get some money. He had to keep trying at that job and managed to get it at his interview, holding back tears he ran to his son, embraced him and made millions at his new job.

He later went and wrote his book: “The Pursuit Of Happiness” and an amazing up to scale film was made and won 8 awards, it has been a heart breaking experience ever since.

*Faith Martins*

## Open Evening in the Library 2015

Once again the Haute Vallée School Library was open for soon to be students and their parents but this time students were on hand to talk about: why we love reading, showing some of our favourite books and most importantly answering any questions or queries



anyone had. One student was focused on Polish resources, another on the Portuguese section and me with a presentation about what the library has to offer. There was also the chance to make and decorate your own bookmark including using famous quotes about learning and reading.

‘Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.’ Mahatma Gandhi

This is one of my favourite quotes that I think everyone should live by. You shouldn’t take learning and reading as a waste of time, it’s something that should be treasured not seen as a hindrance.

*Aimee Sutcliffe*



## Avranches trip 2015

The first day was spent exploring Mont St. Michel. It was a hot, sunny day so the visibility was excellent and the views were stunning. Students also had the opportunity to do some souvenir shopping. In the evening we stayed at Hotel Formule 1, just outside Avranches and had a lovely meal in the Poivre Rouge restaurant next door.

On Friday 5th June, the Town Hall in Avranches kindly organised transport for us to get up the hill to the main town of Avranches. The Year 8 students met up with their pen friends, who they have already met twice before and completed a task on the computers together. The students used the opportunity to chat and catch up, as well as exchange presents. In the meantime, the Year 7 students had a tour of the school. After break time, the Haute Vallée students attended a variety of different lessons, such as Biology, Music and Geology along with their pen friends. The Year 8 students seemed to enjoy this in particular, and took great pride in how much they were able to understand. The lunch break included some free time in the playground and the park, as well as a three course meal in the school canteen. In the afternoon, the Year 7 students went on a scavenger hunt around the town of Avranches with their pen friends and the Year 8s had an opportunity to practise their French in town and do a bit of shopping.

On behalf of all the staff and students at Haute Vallée, I would like to thank the St Helier Twinning Committee for their continued support and funding, without which fewer students would be able to benefit from this valuable opportunity. It was a very successful trip and we were lucky to have excellent weather this year.

*Modern Foreign Languages Department*



## Movie Reviews

### The Martian

Genre: Science Fiction, Action, Adventure.

Actors/Actresses:

- Matt Damon,
- Jessica Chastain,
- Kristen Wiig,
- Kate Mara,
- Jeff Daniels,
- Donald Glover.

The Martian is about a group of Astronauts that go on an expedition to Mars, but all does not go so well. One of the Astronauts get caught in a storm and doesn't make it back, feared dead they leave without him. But he survives, but do they get there in time to save him? It is very action packed and adventurous!

I think this is a very good storyline and a great idea because soon they will start sending humans up to the Mars in a few years!

The Martian had some very good acting in it and at one point the acting was so good I even thought it was real. The set was amazing. It's great what they can do these days.

This movie was quite emotional in some scenes, but it was also quite humorous!

I personally think that this was a great movie and worth going to see if you are a fan of SciFi. Even if you don't, I am sure you would still find it enjoyable!

## Book review

### Midnight

Author: Jacqueline Wilson

What's the book about?: The book is about a girl called Violet, she has a favorite author called Casper Dream she writes to him every day but does not post him anything, she keeps it in the back of her wardrobe hidden from everyone. She doesn't have many friends but when she meets her new best friend Jasmine, everything changes. When she invites her to come to her house, everything is going perfectly until she discovers something shocking while playing truth or dare...

Why should you read this book?: If you love an exciting unexpected read, then this is for you. This book is a real page turner and you will be captivated from start to finish, with all the drama that unfolds as you turn each page.

*Caitlin Morris*

## Book Review

### Don't judge a girl by her cover

Author – Ally Carter

Date Published - 2009

Young Adult Fiction - 11 - 18 Years Old

#### Blurb

The blurb doesn't make the book sound as exciting as it actually is, the book is much more exciting. I think the blurb doesn't give the book as much credit as it should. The blurb should have explained the summary of the book a bit more.

#### What was the book about?

The book is about 2 friends Cameron (Cammie) and her best friend Macey. They are both students at Gallagher Academy For Exceptional Young Women which was secretly a spy school, go on an adventure as Macey's dad is the Senator of the USA and is very important. They also meet a boy called Preston whose parents are also very important. They have to keep their schools secret a secret.

#### Who is your favorite character?

My favourite character was Cammie because she took over situations and solved them on the spot, she saved Macey quite a lot of the time and that's why I like her.

#### My First Thoughts –

At first I thought that this book wasn't going to be that interesting because the blurb wasn't the best of blurbs, it did make me want to read it a little bit but I didn't think it was going to be a good book.

#### My Thoughts During The Book -

I got more and more interested as I read the book. The scenarios got more realistic and were described well with emotive language. The author described the scenarios so well I thought I was one of the characters during the whole book.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion I really enjoyed reading this book, it was filled with action and the scenes were described very well and used lots of emotive language. I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a book that they can get stuck into. This book was one of the books that when I started I couldn't put it down, it was that interesting. I think that the whole secret spy school was well planned out and fit with the whole book. This is book was the 3rd of 6 Gallagher Books so I would recommend the others to readers who like spy/ fiction books.

*Ana Marques*

## My Experience at the Portuguese Eisteddfod

This year I took part in the Portuguese Eisteddfod on Saturday 14th of November. I felt nervous and slightly sick, but was determined to do my best. It was held at the Town Hall, where the room was very pretty. As there were many of competition classes, I sat with my mum and watched everyone perform one-by-one.

When my class came, my mind went blank as I was so nervous. We recited our poem in alphabetical order, with some forgetting their words, which only made my heart beat faster as I was so nervous. As the judges called my name, I walked up to the centre of the stage and said my poem. Luckily, the nerves went away and I remembered every word! I made sure I kept eye contact with the judges and spoke clearly, as I wanted to look confident even though I was very nervous. The judges seemed impressed as they were smiling, and my friends and the audience all applauded for me - it was a great feeling! However, I didn't think I'd win as there were quite a few people who I thought were much better than me.

After everyone finished, the judges decided the winners. They gave out everyone's certificates, and I noticed that they only said well done to me, which made me curious. Suddenly, I heard, "and the winner of the Portuguese Eisteddfod is...Daniela Ramos!". I could not believe it, it was my first time participating in the Eisteddfod! It was definitely the proudest moment of my life so far!!

*Daniela Ramos 8GU*

## The French Choir achieved a platinum award at this years Eisteddfod



Back Left to Right: Elvio Silva Rebekah McBride, Jessica Shum, Tristan Le Fondre, Grace Moore, Mary Bichard, Chloe Best, Abbi Jones, Clair Cullinan, Alexia Le Clezio. Front; Jasmine Lattimer

## Published Poets

## Seaside

The seaside  
 It's a stunning thing  
 We just walk on the soft sand and you can see a great view.  
 That is just glued to your face  
 But we don't ever see the seaside that much  
 With seashell lying down on the sand  
 Sand moving like a tiny tornado  
 Warm, blue sea flowing over the sand  
 Children building sandcastles  
 People getting tans and sunbathing all day long  
 Palm trees moving around like a fan cooling you off  
 Sunsets reflecting onto the sea, making a gorgeous reflection  
 People with deckchairs out and umbrellas, lying down  
 Thinking of how dazzling and beautiful the beach is  
 Children swimming and surfing in the sea  
 Or playing cricket or volleyball and enjoying themselves  
 While the clock ticks on how long their weekend will be coming to an end  
 We must all try to keep the seaside stunning  
 Because it's a beautiful and gorgeous thing.  
 The seaside!

*Amy Henderson (11)*

## My Heart

My heart is so full  
 Just like cotton wool  
 But so light  
 Just as if it's about to take flight  
 I feel like there is more  
 Something for us to fill.

*Savanna Gaspar Young (12)*



## Holocaust

Dead, limp bodies of those innocent and sweet  
The laughter of Nazis  
As they begin to retreat  
The crying and wails of families apart  
Their salty tears shall hit the ground  
While pairs of shoes shall be seen all around  
No owners to wear them  
As they're piled upon the ground.

*Mary Bichard*

## The Cheerful Trio

One young puppy,  
Never to be hated,  
Adorable and lively,  
As beautiful as can be.

One small kitten,  
Like a majestic tiger,  
Out on an adventure,  
Not knowing what to expect.

One cute bunny,  
As fluffy as a pillow,  
Running through the garden,  
As joyful as can be.

The cheerful trio,  
Here to brighten your day,  
Fun and enjoyable your time will be,  
As long as the trio are there.

*Diana Jardim (12)*

## War

War sounds like the Devil,  
 Roaring out his name.  
 War smells like rotting corpses,  
 Who died with pain.  
 War looks like brave soldiers,  
 Sacrificing everything to play.  
 War feels like the earth will swallow you up,  
 If you don't join the game.  
 War is the world,  
 The world going insane.

Sophie Robinson

## Tulips

Eye-catching red tulips  
 They make me think  
 About pure love and  
 What it really means.

Such radiant red  
 With the sun reflecting  
 It's gentle and silky petals  
 A picture of pure gold

Just swaying there  
 In the sincere sunlight  
 Bearing like artistic ballerinas

Sturdy green leaves  
 Surround the flower  
 Keeping it alive  
 So it can keep radiating out  
 Its miraculous power.

*Rachel Vasilescu (13)*

## My Community Leader Story

A Community Leader in my opinion is someone who is committed to helping out each and every person from our own school community, the local community and further afield.

The events I have been involved in so far have also been fun and I have got to know students in different year groups.

When I first came to this school in Yr8 I had the option of being a Community Leader and I took it straight away because I love the idea of helping people.

I got my Community Leader badge after completing four events. I have helped out at the Liberation Tea Party for the war veterans last summer alongside 39 other students. It was a great atmosphere and I want to do it again next year. I also have been involved with the Responsible Business Awareness Week, where I helped the Radisson Hotel clean the beach with 11 other students, I have completed a Resilience in Customer Services course with 5 other students who have also been chosen to be a St. Helier Angels, helping shoppers have a nicer experience in town. Lastly I was the lead Community Leader on the shop window competition where I lead a team of community leaders to design a Christmas window display for Mothercare. I really enjoyed this experience and all the rest.

We have lots more opportunities for next year and we now have over 40 community leaders who get involved in different events. If you are interested in becoming a a community leader, speak to me, Deputy Head Community leader Natasha Little Yr9 or our Head Community Leader Adam McMurray in Yr11.



*Natasha Little*

