

THE EAGLE

BY THE PUPILS. FOR THE PUPILS.

ISSUE NO 52 | JANUARY 2019 |



Happy New Year! The festivities of the Christmas break seem like a long time ago now, but please find a quiet minute to sit and enjoy our first issue of 2019.

A new year can bring pressure to overhaul your life and make fresh starts and we have that covered in this issue, but maybe not in the way you would think!

**Remember to see
Miss Chapman in 213
if you would be
interested in
contributing to The
Eagle.**

ARTICLES

First snow of the
year!

Saffron Sorts It

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Interviews: Miss Bailly
and Mr Bennet

Top comedies of
2018

Top 10:
Ways to get
organised

Snow causes a stir!

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

All across England in the past couple of weeks, temperatures have dropped across the whole country leading to a freezing winter. Disruptions around the whole country have occurred.

Around England, there have been a number of consequences including large amounts of travel disruption. Hundreds of schools across the country temporarily closed down and public transport suffered hugely; Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Hampshire struggled to keep the local schools open, 150 schools in Cornwall were closed and 250 were closed in Somerset. Power cuts were reported around the south of England and Cardiff Airports had disruption with travel. Western and Southern Rail faced severe problems and struggled to place trains upon the usual times.

The South West was the worst affected on Thursday night with 12cm recorded in Bodmin (according to the Met Office). Cumbria received 8cm of snow, 7cm in Inverness-shire and 5cm in Powys.

However, in Derbyshire, their renowned Kinder Waterfall formed a scenic frozen picture with the 30m waterfall to be completely frozen over. Ambitious local climbers have taken it to be their duty to climb this challenging path. This waterfall is the tallest in the Peak District and sits on the edge of Kinder Scout hill.

Local climber, Rod Kirkpatrick stated, "I was there about 7:00 and made the one and a half hour climb up there having set off in the dark, and then the climbers arrived,".



Daredevil climbers have taken it upon themselves to rise up to the challenge of this spectacular sight. Suddenly, this has become an annual event during this bitter season. Tourists are frequently intrigued and amazed by the courage that these certain individuals have displayed.

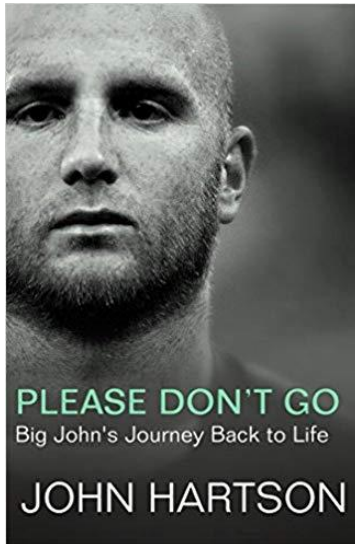
As the cold weather continues on throughout the country, snow and rain fall in England. But, not much in Portsmouth, so here at St. Edmund's let's aim for a high attendance.



What's your favourite...?

with Mr Bennet

By Philip Collins Wight, Y10



What is your favourite book and why?

My favourite book is about John Hartson's journey through cancer called Please Don't Go On: Big John's Journey Back To Life, because he's one of my favourite footballers, and I got the chance to meet him in a pub once.



What is your favourite song and why?

Don't Look Back In Anger by Oasis, as it was on the first album I ever bought with my own money.



What is your favourite game and why?

I don't play many games, but when I was younger FIFA, because I love football.



What is your favourite film and why?

My favourite film is The Bridge of Spies, it's not one hundred percent accurate, but it's a very good film about the Cold War.

Saffron Sorts It!

Our friendly neighbourhood agony aunt Saffron Stedall is here to help with all of your worries and woes. This week, it is a new year special...



What if I fail my new year's resolution?

Then try again! It may be called a new year's resolution but just because you mess up once does not mean utter carnage is to come. Just pick yourself up, dust yourself off and start again. There's 365 days in a year so make it a Monday resolution or a Thursday evening resolution and keep it from then onwards. Don't give up just because it's no longer January first and you broke. There's always time boo. You got this.

Do I need a new year's resolution?

No, quite frankly, new year's resolutions aren't a necessity. What you can achieve on the first of December is no different to what you are capable of and will achieve on Tuesday the sixth of June or Saturday the twenty first of August. You do not need a new year's resolution but it is always good to improve, whether it be something small like learning not everything needs a fight or something big like fighting for what you believe in. You do not need a special day for improvement but have the will do so.

What if I don't have a new year's resolution?

Well then, I'll give one to you. Smile at everyone you see, say hello to everyone you make contact with. Message someone; check up on them and see if they're doing okay. Compliment everyone you speak to. I always get judged for complimenting people all the time but I promise you it's worth it. You never know how someone is feeling and a small compliment, smile, hello or greeting can turn their day around. So this year, make your resolution to improve upon yourself in minimal ways and to make everyone around you feel as important as they are.

Creative Writing

Our award winning author in Year 8, Ana Clarke treats us to her latest work. It will be published chapter by chapter, so make sure that you get your copy of The Eagle every month for the latest instalment.

Chapter 4

This story happened twenty years after that dreaded day when the tree began to wither and die. He was surprised he was still alive after the rot had slowly spread up his trunk. Despite this he knew that he did not have long left before he joined his child in that after place.

His melancholy thoughts were interrupted by an old wagon driving up the slope, its ancient wheels screeching and howling like dying beasts. Inside was a mound of furniture which wobbled uncertainly as the wagon bounced on the sharp rocks. When the wagon finally reached its destination, the wheels looked ready to give way and a couple of chairs had escaped from their precarious perch. He did not know what this mysterious delivery was and was even more unsure when an ancient man stumbled from the wagon and dropped to the floor. The man eventually left but his extreme baggage stayed on top of the hill with the tree.

He got used to the man and his strange ways as he came every day after that to gather fallen slabs of wood and pile them up. The old man also came and sat at the base of his trunk every day in the evening when the sun's light began to wane and the ancient being had finished yet another day on the hill. Warmth had blossomed in his heart for the first time in twenty and the hard wall he had put up around his heart had softened slightly. He had longed for some company and maybe he had found some. He just hoped it lasted long enough to be worthwhile. He had just had to keep the wall up for a bit longer, just in case.

The first morning light came up and thick tendrils of light crawled up the steep bank, lacy fingers hauling themselves up the slope. Eventually the delayed light managed to reach the top of the hill and the day began. As expected the old man arrived and once again began his daily collection. Today something else happened and the man finally began to start using the wood he had collected. He began building what looked like a skeleton of some large ancient creature. As the day drew on it began to take another shape, that of a small house. It was a surprise to the ancient oak that someone had finally decided to stay and maybe even bring family. It made his heart almost soar with joy; not as much as when he had had his child but enough to give him a bit of comfort.

As soon as the work was done the old man left not even stopping for his usual rest by the tree. It made the tree's softening barriers become once again hard and tough: the old man had left just like all the others.

To his surprise the next day, who came up the slope but the old man and... someone else behind him. To the oak it seemed as if it were a child. Yes, a child. He was suddenly was filled with so much happiness that all of his walls melted and joy returned so bright it would never go out. For there walking up the hill was a child just like his own who he knew he could learn to love just as much.

Meet the Teacher: Miss Bailly

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

What inspired you to be a French teacher?

When I was in France in my college, I had an English teacher who inspired me so much. She was a really good teacher, very creative and really inspirational. It has been fifteen years since and we are still in contact. So I became a teacher because of her or thanks to her! Then, I studied for a year in Finland and I didn't have that many French friends so I started to do classes with my Spanish friends for them to learn words in French. After that, I was a French assistant in a school in London and I started to develop my skills of being a French teacher abroad that is different from being a French teacher in France.

If you weren't a French teacher, what would you be?

I would be a journalist or more precisely a photo-journalist. I really love taking photos during my free time and I like to discover new places around the world and share them to other people.

What's your favourite language to speak and why?

As you know French is my mother tongue and it is such a beautiful language that you can speak throughout the world. But I would say Spanish because I really love speaking this language with my friends and I love the culture, the music, people ...

What's your favourite thing about France?

The cheese. The cheese. Me? France has lots of beautiful big cities such as Paris, but also the ocean and the sea as well as the mountains (Alps and Pyrenees). You can travel all around France and see how beautiful and different is the Nature.

What are your new year aspirations?

I would like to do more exercise, it is very important for your health. Before teaching, I was really healthy and did so much sport. I don't have that much spare time now. In the summer, I would like to walk the path from France to Spain: the St. James path -it is very famous.

Any organisational tips?

Do you think that I'm organised? Just do everything that you need as soon as possible, do not leave anything for the day after. Even if you can't see from my desk with loads of papers, I am a very organised person!

Who's your role model?

I don't have one. I don't want to compare myself to someone. We are all different and we can be who we want by making the right choices and learning from our mistakes.

What do you do in your spare time?

I go running by the sea. I like eating cheese. This is not a good combination?! I like listening to music and taking photos, as well as reading. But my favourite one as soon as I have enough spare time is to discover a new place, a new city, a new country!

Why did you choose Portsmouth and Saint Edmunds?

After my master in France, I had the opportunity to come and study in Portsmouth and I spent six weeks in this school. As soon as I came in, I really loved the school, the MFL department and students. So it was like an evidence!

Meet the Teacher: Miss Bailly

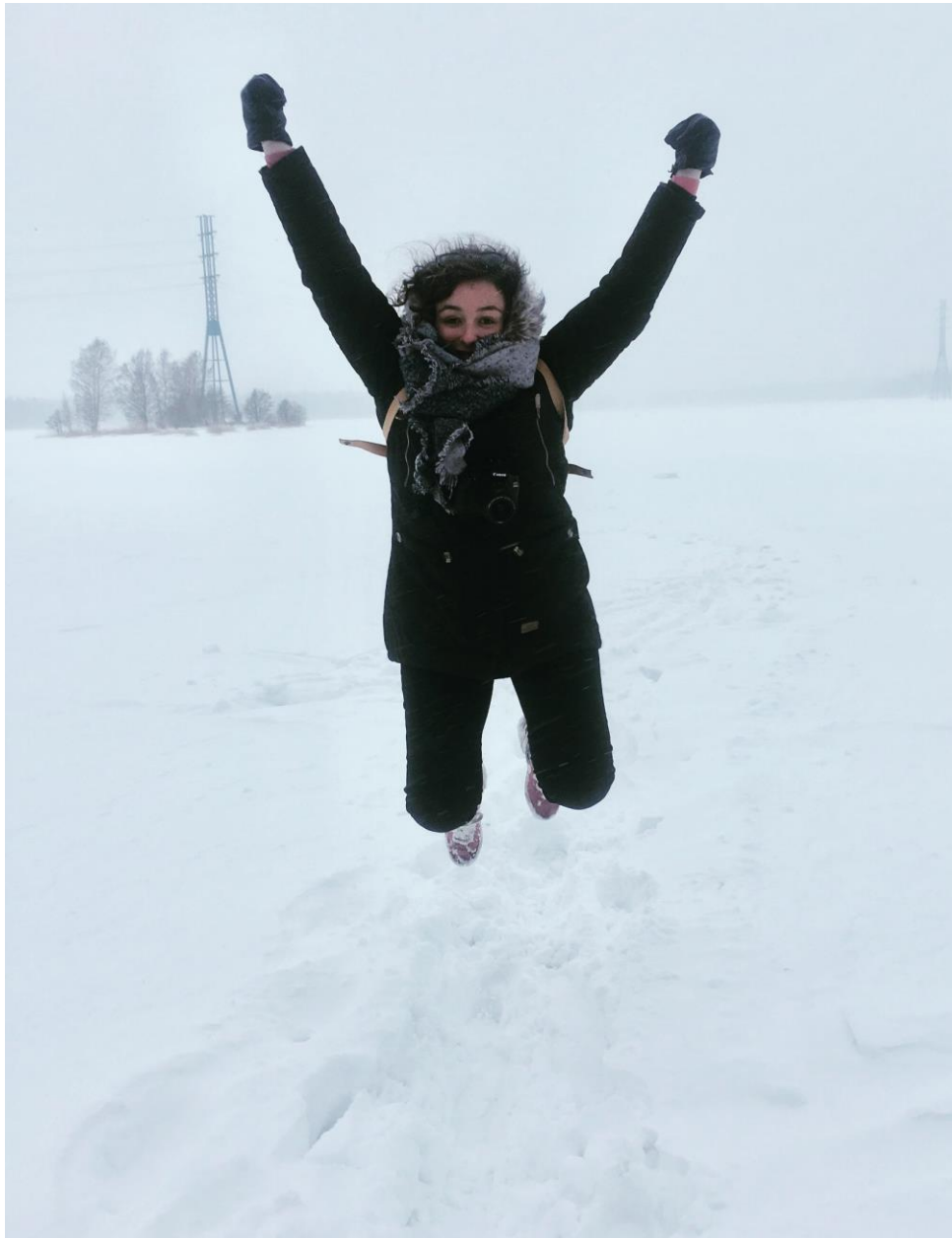
By Caitlin Jones, Y10

What's your favourite thing about being a teacher?

The students because they can be very inspirational as well. I love to see how students can be enthusiastic for my subject such a lively class discussion, hard work on an activity or homework. And the ooooooooooooooh look on a student's face when they finally understand a grammar rule!

What's your favourite place in the world?

This is really hard because I haven't been all around the world -yet! I would say Lapland. There is a little town in the north of Finland called Inari where I saw the Northern Lights and did dog sledding a couple of years ago. It is a wonderful place where you can walk on the frozen lake in winter, and during the summer, there is no night. I really like nature so this is one amazing place for all nature lovers!



Top 3 Comedies of 2018

By Hast Ismail, Y10

Our film critic takes a look back to 2018 to give you her recommendations for the best comedies.

Night School

This is not only one of the funniest movies I know but it is also my favourite! This movie is about a high school dropout (played by the amazing Kevin Hart) who has a great job, girlfriend and life. However, something goes wrong and is left with nothing. He needs to get his GED (Like our GCSEs) in order to get a great job... However it isn't that easy. He therefore goes to a night school, with a terrible head master. The head master is a boy he 'bullied' when he was in high school... This movie is honestly so funny and the actors and actresses are all very great!



Johnny English 3

This is the 3rd of the 'series'. This movie is about a spy (whose character is played by the comedic 'Mr Bean') who is a geography teacher in real life. However this spy is very dumb and sometimes has no common sense! The Spy has to protect England from being hacked into the systems. He needs to find the bad guy and arrest or stop him. But sometimes this spy gets into funny unfortunate accidents which makes him seem like he is lying. Somehow Johnny always ends up saving the day! This movie is awesome to watch with friends and family! What makes this better is that it comes in a series, so if you want to have a movie marathon, then this is perfect!



Crazy Rich Asians

Although this movie is a rom-com, it is still one of the most heart-warming and funny movies I've seen! It's about a girl in America who originally comes from Singapore who also has a boyfriend from Singapore. What the Rachel doesn't know is that her boyfriend Nick is crazy rich (his family is the richest family in Singapore)! When Rachel meets Nick's family for the first time her life changes completely; she goes through a lot of great and terrible times! If you want to know what happens, then you should definitely watch this film because it is such a positive and humorous movie!



Top 10

by Lily Robson, Y10

In this month's issue, to celebrate the start of 2019, I have decided to compile a list of the Top 10 Best New Year Resolutions. Making the list are:

1. Taking down any mugs or plates you may have lying about your house
2. Getting up of time and not having to set 5 alarms
3. Remembering to charge any portable device ready for the day or a journey- and making sure it's actually charged
4. Unearthing the actual desk top under mounds of sheets and random stuff
5. Actually use the useless stuff that you've brought
6. Return the useless stuff you've brought and tried to use before it's too late
7. Set mini goals for yourself- like getting out of bed on the weekend
8. Try a varied diet- don't just have mars bars, have snickers too
9. Spend less time on your phone- switch to your tablet
10. Try walking more- now get up to go to the fridge multiple times

Check back next issue for more Top 10 articles!