THE EAGLE

BY THE PUPILS. FOR THE PUPILS.

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ARTICLES

Lyra McKee

Top Superhero Films

Teacher Interview:
Mrs Rendle

Sri Lanka Tragedy

Top 10: Easter Egg Flavours



We hope that you had a wonderful, peaceful Easter.

Remember to see Miss Chapman in 213 if you would like to write for the Eagle.

Lyra McKee Tragedy

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

On the 18th April, Lyra McKee, aged 29, was killed while observing rioting in Londonderry. Ms McKee was described as a keen journalist and was noting on the activity of the terrorist group known as the "New IRA" just moments before she was killed. Since her murder, the group have put themselves forward and claim responsibility for her death.

Since this horrific act, many have sent out their condolences to the family of Ms McKee. The family issued a statement to show that they are grateful for the huge "outpouring of love, respect and admiration" that have comforted them through the "darkest of times". A candlelit vigil took place to commemorate Ms McKee where many roamed the street to show their support.

Eagerly awaiting justice, the family have issued a reward of £10,000 for anyone to come forward who is aware of information linking to Ms McKee's death. The family announced that they will all "rejoice together on the day that justice is achieved for our Lyra". The police have agreed that this reward may prompt any useful information to be shared.

Prime Minister Theresa May and the President of Ireland Michael D Higgins were among hundreds who attended the funeral and mourned for the loss of this aspiring and determined journalist. The family were unable to thank the whole congregation but issued their appreciation for "every single sentiment no matter how small".



Ms McKee was described as a journalist who "liked to help others, to try to give answers to people and empower people". Her close friend, Ann Travers who lost her sister in 1984 to an IRA gunman, called her "Sherlock Holmes" because she was unable to "let something go once she got hold of it". The successful journalist's career was only just starting. In 2006, she was Sky News' young journalist of the year. In 2016, she was one of Forbes' 30 under 30 due to her influence in media within Europe. Up until her death, she was continuing with her two-book-deal with the publisher Faber and Faber. Her determination was fuelled by her passion for equality. Family and friends described her as somebody who "believed passionately in social and religious tolerance".

Now, the family continue to mourn with the heavy loss of the "intelligent, determined and very witty" daughter, friend and partner that was Lyra McKee. Within Ireland, the terrorist group known as the New IRA continue on with radical acts following from the predecessors during "The Troubles". Many messages and comforting words are being shared of Ms McKee as her legacy lives on with everyone around her today.

Easter Across the World

By Marinela Pervataj, Y7

Easter is a calm, mellow time of the year, where Christians across the world come together to remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Across the world people celebrate Easter in many different ways, the most common one being the Easter bunny and chocolate eggs.

However all these traditions all mean the same thing: ever lasting life and purity.

France

The French do not have an Easter bunny, but Easter bells. An ancient tradition started when no church bells would ring between Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil. Conspiracy theories then broke out across the children of France, wondering why this was so. Eventually they came to an agreed conclusion that the bells grew wings and flew to the pope, where they collected gifts and sweets for the children.

Italy

In Italy the residents of Florence celebrate the 350 year old tradition of blowing up a kart. It started when a cart was filled with fireworks then lit on fire, this was meant to be a sign of peace and a good year ahead. Locals also gather for the annual Ruzzolone, a competition that involves rolling a huge wheel of cheese around the border of Florence.

Poland

The day before Easter, families prepare a "blessing basket." It's filled with coloured eggs, sausages, bread, and other important food and taken to church to be blessed. In the polish culture Lent isn't over, until the priest blesses the basket. After Easter boys and girls try to get each other soaked as part of a fun tradition. If you were soaked through before midday then you would marry within a year. This part of polish culture is said to have started when the polish would be baptized by having water thrown over your head.

Indonesia

There are around seven million Catholics in Indonesia, Christianity was brought here by Portuguese missionaries, and statues from this time are carried through the streets. Young men consider it an honor to be chosen to play Jesus and be tied to the cross in various locations. Easter is celebrated in the main cities of Indonesia, where people remember the death and resurrection of Jesus, and feast together. Like many other countries Indonesia has adopted the tradition of the Easter bunnies, and chocolate eggs.

Mexico

Nearly 90% of Mexicans practice Catholicism which means that nearly 100 million Christians have a reason to believe that the Semana Santa, the holy Week leading up to Easter, is the most important holiday in the church calendar. Many parts of Mexico celebrate Easter with large parties and bright flamboyant colors.

The Sri Lanka Easter Bombings

By Philip Collins White

On Easter Sunday, Sunday 21st April, a suicide bomber killed 253, and injured 500 people at a children's church service. Among the dead were 38 foreigners from Britain, India and the United States.

Six blasts were reported first at quarter past three in the morning. Three were in churches within the capital and surrounding cities, while the remainder destroyed three hotels. Afterwards, two explosions later arrived as the police were investigating suspects of the original attack.

Many people were killed during the acts of terrorism including tourists, the congregations and staff of the hotels. One of the tragic facts of the event, was that the Easter service, designed to unite Christians worldwide, was specifically targeted to attract children, meaning many of them perished.

The day after, Monday 22nd April, Sri Lankan authorities revealed they believed that local militant Islamic group, the National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ) were responsible for the mass murder. However, after that, so called Islamic State said that their men had carried out the attacks. It is possible that NTJ wouldn't have been able to carry out the attacks due to their small size, and it is also possible that IS could be claiming responsibility for an attack they didn't commit, however what is most likely is that the two are likely to be working in collaboration.



The attack came as a shock to Sri Lanka, who were coming up to the end of a decade of peace after the end of the 26-year-long civil war in 2009. Moreover, it is surprising that the Islamic groups would specifically target the Christians of Sri Lanka, who only make up 1.5 million of the 21 million population, while Muslims make up around 2.1 million.

The saddest thing about this attack, is the reignition of the fears and stereotypes brought about by these attacks. The media will now be able to make a story of Christians and Muslims warring against each other, and painting Muslims as evil people who are plotting their next attack on the Free World. But this is not the case. Religion is meant to unite people, rather than separate them, and while the terrorist organisation called Islamic State say that they represent the whole of the Muslim population through lesser Jihad, this is most definitely not the case. In fact, their cause is directly against the rules of lesser Jihad that the Muslim communities call out for.

The Sri Lanka Easter Bombings

By Philip Collins White

It is this fear in Muslims, fired by the media and misinformation, that causes people in power such as Donald Trump, Boris Johnson and Fraser Anning to lash out against those they don't understand. It is this fear in Muslims, that causes hateful actions such as the casual racism on the streets of Portsmouth, Britain and the world, and as an extent of that, the Christchurch shootings. It is this fear in Muslims that causes one man to look at his fellow friend in disgust and despise. So before you next make a joke at the expense of someone's belief, or the next time you look down on someone else because of their religion, think about where that will lead you.



Caster Semenya Controversy

By Jacob Keysall, Y7

Caster Semenya is an athlete who has more testosterone than most women. The testosterone is a hormone that increases muscle mass and strength therefore gives them more stamina.

Caster had to have regular gender checks because of the effect this could have on her running. Lord Coe stated "The reason that we have gender classification is because it may effect women's sport."

The Daily Telegraph (Australia) have stated "Mr Coe is wrong to believe that miss Semenya she is a threat to women's sport."

The UN (United Nations) Human Rights Council have also taken action in this debate and have described the testosterone rule as "harmful and humiliating."

At the moment miss Semenya is still allowed to carry on with her running until they can have a valid reason to change anything.



Meet the Teacher: Mrs Rendle

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

What inspired you to be an English teacher?

I have wanted to be an English teacher for as long as I can remember, but I think my mind was made up after studying Pride and Prejudice for GCSE. My teacher (Mrs Mead) was so enthusiastic and so inspirational that I decided I wanted a job that would allow me to feel like that!

What do you do in your spare time?

I read, any time I can. I love walking my dogs, cooking, watching Manchester United (although that's been rough this season) and spending time at the seafront with friends. I also write articles and reviews for the Strong Island website, so live music is another love of mine.

What's your favourite book and why?

This one is really tough! I don't think I can pinpoint it down to just one, but the two books I always go back to are 'The Great Gatsby' by F.Scott Fitzgerald and 'Evil Under the Sun' by Agatha Christie.

What is the number one thing on your bucket list?

I was lucky enough to tick my number one off a few years ago when I spent some time teaching in Africa. I think my other number one is to visit every continent - I've been to 5 out of 7!

Any exam and revision tips for KS4 students?

Use your time wisely and make sure you are prioritising what you really need. Ask teachers for help and guidance if you aren't sure about this. Remember to take regular breaks, get a good nights sleep before the exam and try to stay calm. Exams are important, but so are you - look after yourself!

Where is your favourite place in the world?

The Cottage Bookshop, Penn, Buckinghamshire

What is your favourite subject apart from your own?

History

Who is your role model?

My role model was, and still is, my Mum. She was an amazing, brave and resilient person and I strive every day to be like her.

Meet the Teacher: Mrs Rendle

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

Why did you choose Portsmouth and Saint Edmunds?

Portsmouth chose me! I came here for a university open day and ended up falling in love with the seafront and deciding to make it my permanent home. I completed a phase of my teacher training at St Edmund's 11 long years ago and when I heard there was a vacancy I knew it was the place for me. Best decision I ever made.

How would you describe yourself as a pupil?

Hardworking, bookish and enthusiastic.

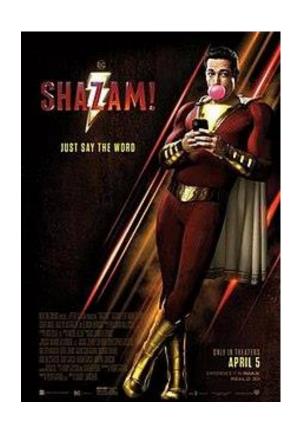


Top 3 Superhero Films in April:

By Hast Ismail

Shazam:

Billie Batson (a troubled foster kid) finds himself being able to become a superhero! By shouting just one word (SHAZAM) he turns into a full grown man with several super powers! Not only does this movie include a plethora supernatural scenes, it also includes many issues that some people go through in the real world. It shows the audience the reality of how some foster children feel and it shows how they overcome their problems. This movie is overall extremely comedic and is very enjoyable to watch!





Avengers: Endgame:

Due to the horrible events that occurred in Avengers: Infinity War (2018), the universe was ruined. The Avengers, with the help of remaining allies, reform their group once again in order to defeat Thanos. They want to undo his actions in order to have the universe be at peace once again. Many overwhelming events happen and there are a plethora of sad and exciting scenes. This movie is a movie with many emotions. Before watching this movie you must watch the previous Avengers in order to understand the plot!

Top 3 Superhero Films in April:

By Hast Ismail

Spider-Man Far From Home:

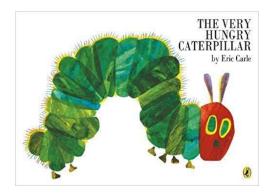
This movie is about Peter Parker (also known as Spider-Man) who goes on a vacation to Europe with his friends. Unfortunately, Peter finds himself having agreed to. Helping Nick Fury reveal the mystery of many elemental creatures. These creatures attack Europe and cause havoc all over the continent. Spider-Man has to fix this problem! In order to find out you need to watch this film. Not only is it an adventurous film, it's suitable for all people. Me, as an Avengers movie hater, loved this trailer, so will be going to watch it!

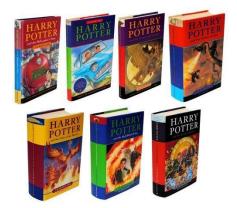


What's your favourite...?

with Mrs Edwards

By Philip Collins Wight, Y10





What's your favourite book and why?

It is very difficult to choose my favourite book. You can imagine being a Librarian and loving books.

So I'm going to say a few books for very different reasons. I love 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', as it was the first book I read all the way through by myself and I just couldn't resist poking my little fingers through the holes, pretending that my tiny finger was the caterpillar.

Many of you know that I'm a huge Harry Potter fan. So the whole complete series is another favourite of mine. I think I love them so much because I am fascinated by Ancient History and myths and legends. JK Rowling uses in the Harry Potter series of books.

What's your favourite game and why?

My favourite game is Ten Pin Bowling. I used to be in a Ten Pin Bowling League and won a few trophies. I even have my own Ten Pin Bowling Ball and shoes!



What's your favourite...?

with Mrs Edwards

By Philip Collins Wight, Y10

What's your favourite song?

I think it has to be 'Play Up Pompey, Pompey Play Up'. I'm a huge Pompey fan and hearing this song takes me straight back to the first game I went to see them play at Fratton Park. My whole family used to always stand (not sit) in the Fratton End. I was only six and could barely see over the high wall. So I used to stand on an old milk crate. It was really strange, as everybody would almost have their own regular spot. Over the years, the people you were next to became friends. Even when seats were added we had the same seats when we renewed our Season Ticket.

Unfortunately, I'm no longer a Season ticket holder and don't go to the away games any more, Did you know that the Pompey Chimes is based upon the tune of the Westminster Chimes? Have a listen and hear it for yourself.





What's your favourite film and why?

My favourite movie is another tough one to choose. I'm not going to select the Harry Potter films, as I preferred the books to the films. It has to be 'Grease'! I must have watched it over 300 times. The music if fantastic and I adore a good romance.

Puzzle Page

Thank you to the book club for our literary themed puzzle!

Book Characters

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LUCY
EDMUND
PETER
SUSAN
KATNISS
GREG
HARRY
RON
HERMIONE
LYRA
WILL

Top 10 By Lily Robson

For this issues countdown, we will be celebrating the joyous occasion of Easter, by listing the Top 10 Best Easter Egg Flavours making the list is:

- 1. Cat Hair Flavour- may leave a slight rash in your throat
- 2. Roast Turkey Flavour- because there's no better taste than Christmas
 - 3. Monster Munch Flavour- preferably pickled onion flavour to give it that extra kick
 - 4. Charcoal Flavour- to give you that warm toasty feeling 5. Water Flavour- for a lighter snack
 - 6.Salt Flavour- a powerful companion to the sweetness of the chocolate
 - 7. Poison Ivy Flavour- side effects may include irritation 8. Egg Flavour- after all it is an egg
- 9. Bath Bomb Flavour- they always look good enough to eat, so why not
 - 10. Cod Liver Oil Flavour- rich in omega-3 to help lower blood pressure

Check back next issue to see more innovative Top 10's!