

# THE EAGLE

BY THE PUPILS. FOR THE PUPILS.

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This issue features news stories that mention world leaders, current events and reviews of Little Women and Riverdale.

One Y11 student also shares their piece of creative writing, which is very thought-provoking.

Please enjoy this issue and remember to see Miss Chapman in 213 if you would be interested in contributing to The Eagle!

## ARTICLES

Boris the Builder

Tragic Death of  
Caroline Flack

Teacher  
Interview:  
Mr Wilkinson

Reviews:

- Little Women
- Riverdale

## Top 10

**In this issue, in honour of Valentine's Day, we will be listing the Top 10 Ways to Show Someone You Love Them. Making the list is:**

1. Writing Them a Nice Message- this should be done in the blood of your enemies or magazine letters, whatever looks nicer. Remember to spell check.
2. Offering to Take Their Photo- preferably when they're sleeping. It shows you're committed.
3. Flash Mob- why not show them your love by sending them a mob of something e.g. pigeons, Vikings or a group of antisocial youths. Dancing is so last year.
4. A Romantic Trip- e.g. a spa weekend. It's surely well deserved, so treat yourself, and just yourself.
5. Giving Them A Pet Rock- I bet they give it more attention than you.
6. A Real Pet- for example a wombat.
7. Food- make sure it's all past its expiry date, just like your relationship.
8. An Onion- a great way to say how you admire their many layers, but not their smell, or how they make you cry.
9. A Picture of Danny DeVito
10. A Romantic Card- for example, messages can include; 'I love you', 'Happy Valentine's Day' or 'You're going to be a Dad'

**Check back next week for more exciting Top 10s!**

## Boris the Builder

By Philip Collins White

As mayor of London, one of Boris Johnson's most well known introductions was the Boris Bikes. Now as the metaphorical mayor of our whole country, Mr Johnson is introducing more infrastructural plans: the HS2, Boris Bridge and a Heathrow expansion.

The HS2 isn't a new concept, with the Department for Transport creating the company behind the High Speed Railway in 2010. Now, 10 years later, Mr Johnson is planning on creating a new high-speed link between London, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds. This 400m long route is expected to allow 1,100-seat-trains to travel at 250mph, 14 times an hour. Originally, this project was estimated to cost £56bn, but already the estimate has risen to £106bn.



The fact that the route passes through approximately 70 constituencies means there are a lot of parliamentary barriers to cross, especially with groups such as Stop HS2 and HS2 Action Alliance saying this will increase carbon emissions and decrease the proportion of jobs outside of London, before it reaches the end of Phase 1 (London to Birmingham) by 2031.



Whilst HS2 is an old idea, the Boris Bridge was introduced with the titular PM. Already officials are looking the idea of a more-than-£20bn bridge linking Scotland and Northern Island, and already critics have arisen from both politicians and builders. Both the Northern Island Infrastructure Minister and Scotland Transport Secretary expressed concerns over the fact that neither of their departments were consulted before the bridge's announcement. Many concerns have risen over the fact that the bridge will pass near Portpatrick in the ocean, where 1.2 million tonnes of munitions have been dumped, as well as two tonnes of concrete drums with chemical and radioactive waste. Finally, the struts will also have to be 300m deep, the size of the shard.

The Heathrow expansion is the most developed project so far, and now it's been declared unlawful by the Court of Appeal on the 27th February. While Heathrow is hoping to take its case to the Supreme Court, its plans for a third runway have been shut down over concerns over the increase of noise and sound pollution, as well as environmental pollution. In addition to this, it seemed directly at odds with the government's plan to become carbon neutral by 2050. While this plan has not been directly endorsed by Boris Johnson, it was approved by Theresa May's conservative government in 2015.



One Y11 has written a topic-based piece on homelessness in Portsmouth.

Meon Valley MP  
Parliament  
House of Commons  
London

Dear MP,

As a long term resident of the beautiful coastal city of Portsmouth, visiting Commercial Road multiple times a week on my almost daily commute, I am writing to express my concern about the growing homeless population in not only our neighboring city, but across the country as a whole. I understand that many people may lack compassion for the homeless, stating that it is a 'personal choice', a 'lifestyle' or even their own fault and I respect that you may share this sentiment privately, but I beg you to think about the 135,000 children who are expected to become homeless in the next year and fight to better the way our nation deals with this problem.

A 2018 study by the organisation 'homeless', reported that 40% of all local authorities found that the scale of youth homelessness has increased and over half of the service providers in our country found that they had a higher demand for services from people aged 16-24 years old. Respondents to an anonymous survey identified a lack of affordable housing, a lack of supported accommodation and the reforms of the welfare benefit system to be reasons for an increased number of homeless youths; are these not all things controlled by the government, Mr.MP?

Tell me what are you doing about this crisis? These children, the future of our society, are struggling in the streets, on hard park benches, in concrete doorways, and what are you doing?

I am not a government official. I have no experience of Parliament or how the legal system works- but I know that you do. You have an impact. I am asking you to amplify my voice with yours and speak for the hundreds of thousands of young people whose plight reflects the issues I have raised in this letter. These children do not deserve such hardships, they deserve love and reassurance, and if that is not possible, they at least deserve shelter, a roof over their heads; they are human.

Please Mr. MP, take this into consideration, raise it with your peers, and serve your constituents, regardless of whether they live in a five-bedroom home or under a bridge, we are all deserving.

Yours Sincerely,

A Concerned Y11

## Tragic Death of Caroline Flack

By Caitlin Jones, Y11

"Not everyone is going to like you all the time, not everyone is going to think you're beautiful, but there is a difference between opinion and abuse." -Caroline Flack

Caroline Flack, 40-year-old TV presenter, ended her own life on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Poplar Coroner's Court heard that Flack was "found lying on her back" after an apparent hanging in her north-east London home. A police car had been flagged down in Stoke Newington and CPR was attempted by officers, then continued by paramedics. Coroner's officer Sandra Polson said she was pronounced dead at the scene.

After her suicide on Saturday, social media has been the prominent explanation for her death -as have the mainstream media and the Crown Prosecution Service as they pressed ahead with the trial after she was charged with assaulting her boyfriend -a charge of which her partner did not support the prosecution. Many witnesses stated that, on the date of her last court hearing, when she pleaded not guilty, the TV presenter seemed to be struggling with the media attention and courtroom pressure.



"This kind of scrutiny and speculation is a lot to take on for one person to take on their own." -Caroline Flack

In an unpublished Instagram post, which was shared by her family, Flack stated that her "whole world and future was swept from under my feet" following her arrest. Flowers have been left outside the door of her former house whilst many social media personalities and celebrities have publicly shared their condolences for the family and demand that more is done in the future to prevent anymore deaths at the result of internet trolling.

## Tragic Death of Caroline Flack

By Caitlin Jones, Y11

Back in 2015, Flack was not on a high after reaching another peak in her career of hosting her first live edition of The X Factor, instead she was in tears after looking at social media.

"The reaction was quite overwhelming because I didn't think people would be talking about how I look, how I stand, how I walk or how I laugh". -Caroline Flack

Hair salons across the country have stopped stocking celebrity gossip magazines after her death, many posting their decision onto social media. Ms Donoghue, 41-year-old hairdresser stated that, "when I thought about Caroline and the impact these magazines have had on her life, I wanted to make a change."

"I am suddenly on a different kind of stage and everyone is watching it happen." -Caroline Flack

Additionally, positive changes have been sparked across the country, such as a petition calling for "Caroline's Law", which pleads for it to become an offence for the media to "knowingly and relentlessly bully a person" has received more than 750,000 signatures.





## Little Women Film Review:

By Charlotte Golding, Y11

You may have heard about the new film adaptation of Little Women that has recently come to the cinemas and if not, well I am here to tell you about it!

To give you some context, Little Women was originally a semi-autobiographical book written by Louisa May Alcott - in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Little Women is set during the years after the American Civil War and it focuses on the bond between sisters: Meg, Jo, Amy and Beth, in the absence of their father. Jo March lives in New York and tries to make her living as a writer, while her sister Amy is taken to Paris by their Aunt March to study painting. Their oldest sibling, Meg, is married to tutor of childhood, family friend - Laurie, while shy sister Beth explores her love for the piano.



This film stars Emma Watson (Meg March), Saoirse Ronan (Jo March), Florence Pugh (Amy March), Eliza Scanlen (Beth March), Timothée Chalamet (Laurie Lawrence) and Meryl Streep (Aunt March).

So, what's my verdict on this new adaptation of Little Women?

I think the order of events was extremely clever and very intriguing. Going into watch this film, I already knew the plot, but I was still very interested throughout the film. I think whether you have or haven't read Little Women, this film is a must-see!



## Riverdale Review

By Mia Laver, Y9

Riverdale is a series on Netflix based on the Archie comics. The series goes through the four teenagers lives and struggles. There are three seasons and the fourth has a few episodes left.

The lives of the four teenagers are mostly affected by their parents and the choices they made and are making.

You get to see their relationships grow and some fail. You get to see how they cope with certain situations and how you could reflect them onto yourself.

They come together as one and try and help each other in times of need.



## **Meet the Teacher: Mr Wilkinson**

By Caitlin Jones, Y11

### **What inspired you to be a teacher?**

My old Judo Instructor - he made learning fun and taught me that only by teaching things do you really understand them.

### **How would you describe yourself as a pupil?**

Pretty average - found exams really really difficult.

### **What is your best advice for KS4 pupils undertaking GCSEs?**

REVISE - little and often - keywords and meanings - past paper questions - give yourself a treat when you complete your plan.

### **What is something that you wish that you would have known at 16?**

It doesn't matter what people think of you as long as you are honest, hardworking and always try your best no matter what.

### **Who is your role model?**

My Dad!

### **Why did you choose to work at Saint Edmunds?**

They had an Assistant Headteacher job advertised and I liked the idea of working in a faith-based family. Being a Portsmouth boy, I also wanted to support pupils in the City where I grew up...help them achieve their goals.

### **If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?**

Maldives - amazing place and likely to disappear in the future because of the rising sea levels

### **What has been the most rewarding experience of your life so far?**

Being a Dad.

### **Where is the strangest place that you've been?**

Falkland Islands in 1991.