



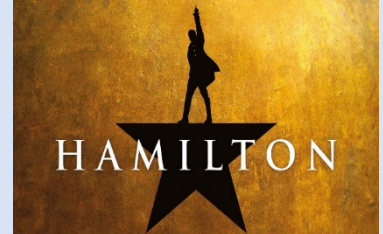
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### How is AI changing the world?

By Lexi Taylor, Clem White, Kat Lockhart & Gemma Seabright.

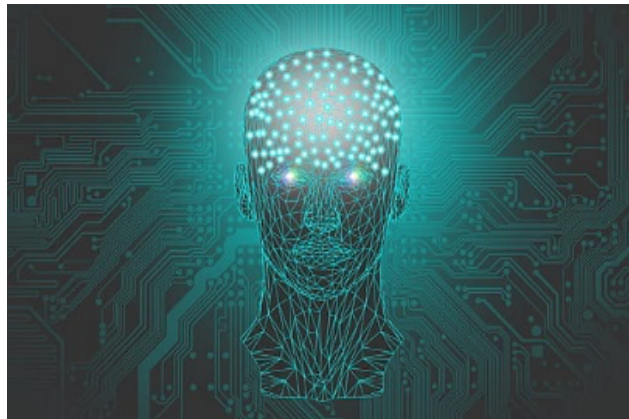


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Is AI rapidly transforming aspects of society? The role of AI in our modern world and whether it has a negative or positive impact on our lives is a question which is often debated, with some claiming that AI has taken away jobs, whereas its supporters say that it has also brought more opportunities for new and diverse careers.

It is true that some school students are tempted to use AI to complete homework, especially when they have left it until the last minute. Unfortunately, this is damaging for those students and hinders their ability to learn and work independently. For example, using AI on creative writing pieces damages the ability of young people to form their own personal opinions and views.

Despite destroying students' ability to think critically, AI still has a role to play in education and can positively impact learning if used correctly. It can make potentially difficult topics more accessible, providing resources and support to students. AI can also analyse data and help provide targeted feedback, ensuring students get the support they need to succeed at their own pace.

It isn't just school children who will benefit; people working within office settings can utilise AI, too. Not only can it help write emails, it can also help private sector companies to conduct research, especially in finance as it can be used to analyse large data sets, identify trends and generate insights. Ultimately, it is clear that we are yet to experience the full extent of AI and its impact on all of our lives.

# Current Affairs

## Labour: One Year in Government

By Toby Johnson

Picture the scene: a Labour Government one year into their term in office, a huge majority of MPs sat behind a Prime Minister who led them to victory along with a once optimistic and up-beat front bench.

You would think that MPs would cheer the PM as he rises to his feet ready to hit the new opposition leader, Kemi Badenoch, for six as she tries her hardest to challenge the PM for what many would say has been an incredible year of a new Government promising change.

Yet this scene is one straight from the dreams of Sir Keir. This has been a turbulent first year in office, if I'm being generous. This is not a partisan view. It is on show for all in the world to see. Instead of raucous cheers from the Labour benches at PMQs, an almost jeer-like noise is heard from behind. You can forget Starmer walking away from this as a batsman walks from the pitch after scoring a century. The Prime Minister answers the questions (asked by a usually downcast opposition) poorly, appearing to answer without care for his fellow cabinet ministers. He even leaves the Chancellor of the Exchequer crying on the front benches, the equivalent of him being bowled out on his first ball.

This piece is not here to diminish any achievements in the first year of this Government. It is true that they have reduced NHS waiting lists and created new breakfast clubs for schoolchildren in primary education, yet we see here a commentary on the state of UK politics as a whole.

What position are we at when the Prime Minister of the UK, the highest elected political office in the country, can't 'do' politics? One would assume he has a plethora of political advisers telling him what to do. Perhaps they need sacking? From the speech that echoed Enoch Powell, the handling of Government policy announcements, a backbench rebellion of 67 Labour MPs on a major policy issue and then his Chancellor weeping on the front benches, you begin to question when our politicians will learn to 'do' politics properly.

## Education Around the World

By Karina Krasimirova



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Education is extremely important as it spreads widely across different individuals and societies. Starting with individuals, they can have an economic advancement, where education is a key driver towards individual financial success. This ultimately leads towards: better job opportunities, higher earning potential, and greater career satisfaction. Also, it improves health, it equips students with the knowledge to make informed health decisions, access healthcare effectively, and adopt healthier lifestyles. Personal development is also key as it conveys and enhances cognitive abilities, critical thinking skills, and self-confidence. Education can vary in different countries; in this case, the United Kingdom and Bulgaria.

### Differences Between UK and Bulgaria School Days

Bulgarian schools have a more traditional, lecture-based approach, whereas UK schools incorporate diverse assessment methods like research projects and coursework. The Bulgarian school year begins in mid-September and ends in late June, with breaks for Autumn, Christmas, Spring, and Summer.

Alternatively, in the United Kingdom, the school year is around 190 days, divided into three terms with breaks for half-term, Christmas, Easter, and summer. The country still holds certain traditional rules and regulations; however, Bulgaria has a very strict traditional approach.

## Sustainable Living: Small Swaps to Make a Big Impact

By Sophie Walters & Tiegan Goodlad

Don't we all feel like we could do more for the planet but don't know where to start? Our everyday living may consist of single-use packaging and throwing away last-week's food you forgot was rotting at the back in your fridge. Let's change this! The reason people feel overwhelmed by sustainability is because there is a myth that only massive, costly change makes a difference. In reality, it is the small, everyday changes in habits which make the biggest impacts.



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### Food for thought

Meat and dairy contribute to 14.5% of greenhouse gases making it one of the leading causes of climate change. We are not necessarily saying you have to be vegan, but there are many ways to enjoy your favourite food while protecting the planet. How about eating less, locally sourced meat and looking out for sustainability labelling such as 'pasture for life' or 'RSPCA assured'. Overbuying, not eating and throwing away, does this sound familiar? You're not alone- 10 million tonnes of food goes to waste in the UK every year. That's around 40000x heavier than the statue of Liberty!

So, buy less, make use of the food you have by maybe baking some banana bread with some over-ripe bananas sitting on the counter and if they are past rescuing, compost them! Finally, avoid palm oil, it is responsible for massive losses in rainforest cover which contribute to climate change so steer clear of palm oil products.



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### Save your wallet, save the planet

There is a common misconception that you can't love shopping and the planet, but this simply isn't true. Shopping for preloved clothes on selling apps such as Vinted or in charity shops puts a pause on fast fashion, reduces landfill waste and helps your wallet too. Not only are preloved clothes cheaper, but you can find some real gems. Alternatively, you could focus on buying high quality, sustainable pieces that last a lifetime. And most importantly, think before you buy. Conscious consumption is by far the most effective way to reduce waste!



Image included with kind permission of Google.

### Don't be trashy

We've all heard the saying 'reduce, reuse, recycle' and when it comes to sustainability this should be our motto. You may think that there is only one way to recycle but there is more than just the green bin. Many companies provide the option to recycle old products in store, such as the Boots recycling scheme, where old products can be traded for points. This way, the planet wins and so do you! Plastic packaging is a major contributor to landfill, and the breakdown of micro-plastics is causing damage to our ecosystems. So don't ignore the little label that tells you to recycle the packaging at the supermarket. Finally, reuse as much as possible, don't throw away shopping bags, don't buy single use plastic, don't destroy our planet. Think smart, think eco.

## America Has a Big Problem

By Fred Walden & Sofia Hasa



~~"Donald Trump should be impeached"~~ according to Democrat House Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Her statement is controversial but it is hard to deny her claims. The United States of America and the entire world are divided by Trump's precarious 171 days in office, and it is evident we need to see a large change.

Despite only having sat 11% of his term, Trump has managed to protect the criminals from the January 6<sup>th</sup> riot, destroy the world economy through tariffs, and hold a 12-day war between the USA and Iran. And lest we forget the authoritarian and illegal action taken by ICE on American citizens.

### Trump's "Big Beautiful Bill"

The bill was finalised on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June and was passed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. After much debate, the bill was passed by a vote of 218 to 214. The president stated, "This is going to be a great bill for the country" which "would turn this country into a rocket ship."

The bill gave more funding to services such as ICE whilst cutting people's access to Medicaid. Trump's Immigration and Customs Enforcement will receive additional funding off \$45 billion over the next four years. \$880 billion is to be cut from Medicaid; there are even rising suspicions of proposals that will cut up to a total of \$1 trillion over the next decade. This would mark the largest cut in the history of Medicaid. Medicaid provides health coverage to millions of low-income Americans and was introduced in the 1960s by former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

The money that has gone towards the ICE agency is more funding than the federal government has spent on immigration detention during the last three presidential administrations combined. Along with the boost to ICE's budget, there has also been an increase in spending on defence and border control. The US military will receive a budget of \$150 billion under the bill. The additional funding, which is set to run until 2029, will be used to nearly double migrant detention – which is evident in the recent opening of Alligator Alcatraz detention centre in Florida. The initial construction of the camp cost around \$20 million and the estimated annual operation costs is expected to be approximately \$450 million. Ultimately, the bill targets vulnerable citizens and benefits the rich.

It is clear that Trump has not made a promising start to his secondary presidential run and in only 171 days he has managed to put a whole country against him.

## Blood Breakthrough

By Nathan Russell & James England

For years, blood transfusions have been difficult to execute for a range of reasons, be that because of differing blood types or inadequate storage times.

But recently, scientists in Japan have been conducting clinical trials in which they have tested the effectiveness of synthetic red blood cells which are universal to all blood types and will potentially be able to be stored for years, even at room temperature.

These trials involve the extraction of haemoglobin from expired donor blood. It is encapsulated in a lipid shell, forming haemoglobin vesicles. These mimic the function of red blood cells, and have no blood type.

If successful, these trials and the concepts involved could completely revolutionise the blood donation system and save lives across the world.

# School News

## Sixth Form Survival Guide

By Abbie Farmer, Ava Gembarska, Amy Hunn & Viktoriia Cherkaska

1. Take your frees and run with them – enjoy your free time, but utilise it to get work done.
2. Ignore the TVs in the common room – they are depressing.
3. Be nice to everyone around you, teachers and students alike – they will all help you.
4. Do your private study work and homework when you get it - don't fall behind or get in trouble for something avoidable.
5. Do your coursework on time - don't fall behind and potentially ruin your life!
6. PERSERVERANCE.
7. Take subjects you love – don't just pick what your friends have. It's a lot of work and effort, and if you don't enjoy it, the work will feel impossible to get done.
8. Don't try and pick an "easy" A-Level; all A-Levels are difficult.
9. Revise for exams – they are a lot harder than GCSEs. Especially revise for mocks, they mean quite a lot.
10. Take all the opportunities they can give you, particularly trips – you get lots and they are all great experiences.

## Why Prince Henry's Needs a Swimming Pool

By Phoebe Hull & Jess Griffiths

### Free Swimming Lessons

Some people cannot afford swimming lessons in a public swimming pool. Having this facility available at school will benefit them and teach them this valuable skill.

### Swimming Is Vital To Life

Teaching children to swim could help save a life by creating strong swimmers and ensuring that everyone knows what they should and should not do near water.

### It could be a valuable addition to the PE curriculum

When the temperature rises in summer, most people are too hot to run around and play sports like football and rounders. Having a swimming pool is a great way to cool down whilst still retaining a PE focus!

### The Health Benefits of Swimming

Swimming can help to improve your overall fitness and boost your strength, stamina and suppleness at the same time.

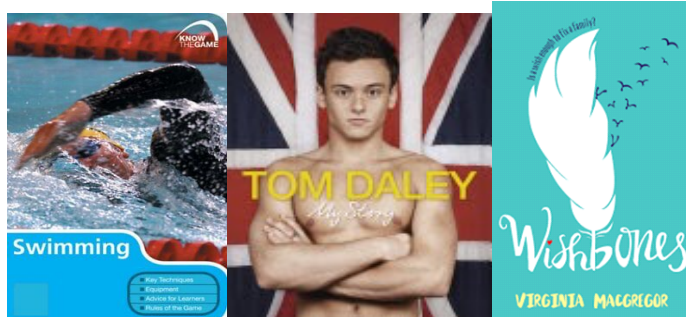
### House Competitions

Inter-house competitions are usually land based, including football, rounders, cricket and more, but why shouldn't we have aquatic activities too? An inter-house swimming gala could be a great way to get even more students involved with the House system.

### Fundraising

If we had a pool, it could be opened up to the public at weekends and in the holidays, raising money for the school.

### Interested in Swimming? Read These:



## A Day in the Life of a Sixth Form Student

**By Nadia Maciejka, Chloe Kelsall & Millie Grove**

### Tutor Time

In Sixth Form, we all start the day in our form rooms, which are all located in D block. In Tutor Time, we get given notices from the daily bulletin, and after taking in all of the important information, we get onto Tutor Time activities (with our favourites being Wordle and Heardle).

### Morning Lessons

As soon as that bell goes at 9:35, the first two periods begin. We might have Private Study, where we knuckle down and get the avalanche of homework sorted for the week; a free period where we can enjoy a pain au chocolat and a visit to our beloved dinner lady, Nicky; or a productive hour of learning.

### Lunch

Now it's time for the best parts of the day: lunch! This is a time to catch up with friends, play endless rounds of Uno, head to Tesco's for a quick Meal Deal, or just have a breather and relax. Remember, there is no judgment if you buy Maltesers and Yorkies with your golden fingerprint as it's a safe space for all.

### Afternoon Lessons

After the excitement of lunchtime, we ascend down the A Block stairs to the last lessons of the day. If you are lucky like us, you might have that one special English teacher who makes those last two hours fly by extra quickly!



## Sports Day

**By Toby Johnson**

The day is near: the biggest day in the school's calendar. A day of excitement, fun and probably sunburn awaits the remaining pupils at Prince Henry's High School as they prepare to compete in traditional events, such as the 100m sprint and Shot Put, as well as less conventional events such as Boccia and the Egg and Spoon race!

Lower school pupils will be able to enjoy the excitement of arriving at school ready-dressed in their PE kits, whereas the Sixth Form team have tasked the Sixth Form students to dress up in themed attire for the big day. 12HBT will follow a Toy Story theme and 12MJC are following a 1980s theme.

In the morning, we will all enjoy Games Day before taking to the field for Sports Day in the afternoon. Each pupil competes as a representative of their house, one of either Burlingham, Deacle, Holland, Lichfield or Workman, in an attempt to clinch possession of the coveted House Cup.

Expect to hear the stampede of the runners, and the giggles and laughs of the spectators. Those not competing can, alongside viewing the exciting sporting competition on show, buy ice creams and lollies at the annual Interact Sports Day Ice Cream Sale, as well as relish in the commentary from our very own Mrs Webb!

It's a time for celebrating our own achievements and those of others, especially as the curtains draw on what has been another successful year for pupils and staff at Prince Henry's. Finally, Dr Evans will hand the trophy to the sports captain of the winning house, to be hoisted proudly above their heads for the camera.

We are all waiting expectantly to see which House will be victorious this year!

# Entertainment

## News

### Top Ten West End Musicals

By Kitty Andrews & Erin Arthur

Going on a trip to London? Well, this summer, there are a range of amazing shows to see on the West End.

Firstly, we couldn't forget to include Jamie Lloyd's *Evita* starring the brilliant Rachel Zegler as Eva Perón. This charming musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber features classic songs such as, "Don't Cry For Me Argentina" and "Buenos Aires". A must-see at the London Palladium.

Another stellar show we have to mention is the timeless tale of "Oliver!". Now we may be biased, having both played Nancy in different productions of *Oliver*, but we think we can all agree that *Oliver* is a classic and imaginative tale. Catch this brilliant show at the Gielgud Theatre starring Simon Lipkin as Fagin.

Do you hear the people sing? Well you certainly will when you see *Les Misérables* in the Sondheim theatre, London. A life changing show about war, love and loss. Starring the **SENSATIONAL** Ian Mckintosh as Jean Valjean, *Les Mis* is easily one of the best shows on the West End.

A phantom in an opera house? Sounds like a party. The iconic musical of *Phantom of the Opera* is not one to miss. Who doesn't want to see the Phantom (Dean Chisnall) chasing poor Christine (Lily Kerhoas) around the brilliant stage of His Majesty's Theatre. But, be careful, when the Phantom doesn't get his way, there's hell to pay...

When I grow up, I'm driving to the Cambridge Theatre to watch the brilliant *Matilda* to see the fabulous Eve Norris as Miss Honey, and Kieran Hill as the Trunchbull. And, we cannot forget the spectacular child cast. Their talent is beyond belief and has to be witnessed in person. Definitely a first-class show.



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Way down Hadestown, way down under the ground. Well, not quite. This incredible show is actually performed in the Lyric Theatre, with Dylan Wood taking to the stage as the songwriter, Orpheus, and Desmonda Cathabel as the songbird, Eurydice. This show will make you laugh through the inevitable tears; its comedy classic.

The party is roaring on with the thrilling *Great Gatsby*, currently in the London Coliseum. Set in the 20s, social aristocrat Jay Gatsby (Jamie Muscato) is devastated to find that his girlfriend Daisy (Frances Mayli McCann) has gotten married whilst he was away at war. This hilarious, yet devastating, show is narrated by our own Corbin Bleu as Nick Carraway.

You can go the distance to see *Hercules* at Theatre Royal Drury Lane, and, unlike *Megara*, we would say we're in love (with this show). Starring Luke Brady (*Hercules*) and Mae Ann Jorolan (*Meg*), this smash hit is not one to miss.

Unless you're scared of three-headed dogs.

Willkommen to London's very own Kit Kat Club! *Cabaret* is a stunning show, with a fantastic West End cast. Hannah Dodd takes centre stage as the perfectly marvellous Sally Bowles, alongside Rob Madge as the master of ceremonies, Emcee. Don't miss this wonderful production.

Onto our final production. Did you really think we would forget *Wicked*, the iconic story of the witches of Oz? Having both been in *The Wizard Of Oz* last October, we feel a strong connection to *Wicked*. Is the witch of the west as evil as she seems? You'll have to find out. Let us be glad, let us be grateful that *Wicked* is at the Apollo Victoria Theatre London.

## Top Five West End Plays

**By Kitty Andrews & Erin Arthur**

Not in the mood for a musical? Well don't worry - the West End has plenty of plays on offer this summer!

If you're in the mood for a good laugh we would highly recommend the seeing "Fawlty Towers". Many years after the success of the television show starring John Cleese, of Monty Python fame, they decided to turn the best moments into a play. So head down to the Apollo theatre for a great laugh!

Looking for some fun and magic, then you must see "The Cursed Child". Even though it takes place 19 years later after we last saw the golden trio, the story and plot still has the classic magic, that we first experienced all the years ago when reading the books. The show takes place over two nights which means you can have plenty of fun during the days before heading to the Palace theatre.

Another hilarious play to see this summer would be "The Play that Goes Wrong". The Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society present a comedy that knows no limits. Described as Fawlty Towers meets noise off, the society try to put on a 1920s murder mystery, but, as the name suggests, everything goes quite wrong. Will they make it to curtain call? Find out for yourself at the Duchess Theatre.

What's the point of seeing a play if it's not Agatha Christies "The Mouse Trap". It is the longest running play in the WORLD, celebrating 73 years this November. It is a thrilling murder mystery with many twists and turns. So you must go to St Martin's Theatre, to be transported into Christie's genre defying mystery. But you must remember not to spoil the ending for anyone else!

Can you imagine a world where white people are treated as inferior to black people, a society where the noughts are worth less than the crosses. Well, this reality is brought to life in, Noughts and Crosses, our final play. A tragedy in its truest form, we follow the love story of Sephy, a cross, and Callum, a nought, as they navigate a world that looks down on their relationship. This play will make you smile, gasp and bawl your eyes out at the circumstances our poor characters find themselves in. Will it be alright in the end? We doubt it, but, by all means, watch it yourself to find out.

## Why Should You See Hamilton in 2025?

**By Jess Griffiths & Phoebe Hull**

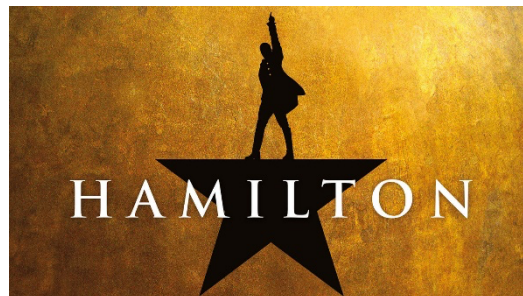


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Hamilton is a Biographical Musical based on the 2004 biography Alexander Hamilton.

The main plot of the story Hamilton is Hamilton wanted to fight in the war; he wanted to 'rise up' and 'not throw away his shot'.

You should watch Hamilton because you are learning about the American Revolution and the American History but you don't realise while you're in the theatre they are very discrete.

Hamilton was first performed on Broadway in 2015 and was written by Lin-Manuel Miranda. The whole musical is sung in rap style for younger viewers and to be different and interesting.

### UK Tour Dates:

#### Sunderland

Playing now until 26<sup>th</sup> July

#### Plymouth

30<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025

#### Norwich

16<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – 25<sup>th</sup> October 2025

#### Glasgow

29<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – 27<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Murder in the LRC!

By Karina Diachenko & Scarlett Maurice-Brant

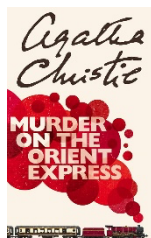


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We have all heard of Agatha Christie. She is the “Queen of Crime” and has written an astounding 66 novels. However, today we are focusing on our favourite – “Murder on the Orient Express”.

This book tells the story of Hercule Poirot investigating the murder of Samuel Ratchett, an American businessman, while trapped aboard the train during a snowstorm. We follow Poirot through his inquiry of the sudden murder and see his skills as a detective while working in close quarters to all the suspects, right through to the end passing unexpected plot twists. This book shows the ingenuity of Agatha Christie and allows the reader to truly escape reality.

Though this book may be fiction it was actually based on real life events! According to Wikipedia, Christie was inspired by a case of kidnapping and murder of Charles Lindbergh's son in 1932 and also the author's international journey on the Orient Express. The novel used many elements of the real life case: a young child, firstborn of the family, was kidnapped for ransom directly from the crib, the parents were famous, the father was a well-known pilot and the mother pregnant, and the ransom was paid but the child found dead soon after. An innocent, but perhaps loose-lipped, maid employed by Lindbergh's parents was suspected of involvement in the crime. After being harshly interrogated by police, she killed herself.

If you fancy trying this book you can find it in the LRC in the Fiction section under the letter C. Also if you want to get your own copy you can expect to spend as little as £3.20 on Abe books for a second hand copy. If you have previously enjoyed other detective books like “A Good Girl's Guide to Murder” or “Murder Most Unladylike” you will be bound to enjoy this extraordinary novel.

## ‘Interview With A Vampire’ – Why it Still Offers a Revolutionary Statement About Society

By Sophie Stras

Live action remakes of treasured and cherished classics aren't always given the kindest regards, but Interview with a vampire managed to break free from the grasps of critics and show how a live action re-telling should really be like. Are vampire re-telling back in business? Maybe, but this is no ordinary re-telling. This beauty of a series captures and conveys much deeper and brooding themes which still makes it very relevant and captivating even to this day. There is a reason it won the Dorian Awards and MOBO awards after all. However, that is not to say that it's all perfect; there are still anomalies to be found between the actual Anne-Rice book and the improvising given by the directors.

Unlike many reboots, this series dives deep into themes of racism, corruption, and identity, making it powerfully relevant today. Set in the 1910s, it explores the harsh realities of Jim Crow laws through the life of Louis De Pointe du Lac, a Black-Creole man navigating systemic oppression.

The arrival of Lestat De Lioncourt introduces manipulation and emotional vulnerability, highlighting how power preys on the weak. While director Neil Jordan captures Lestat's charisma, he downplays the character's inner fragility, a key element in Anne Rice's original novel.

The series also breaks ground with its unapologetic portrayal of queer relationships. The romance between Louis and Lestat, along with other LGBTQ+ pairings, is raw and authentic—eschewing idealization for emotional realism. This representation, still rare in Western media, has earned the show critical acclaim and awards.

It is no wonder that Interview with a vampire has been regarded as one of the best LGBTQ+ series of our times. Not only has it been well regarded but the representation and diversity has been praised highly of too. There is a lot of differences between the series and the novel as a whole, however that should not deter from the new and exciting flare.

## Manga Review: 'Witch Hat Atelier'

**By Abigail Goodge**

Witch Hat Atelier is a stunning manga written and illustrated by Kamome Shirahama that has been praised by many for its diversity and unique art style among other things.

This manga is the perfect read for fantasy and magic lovers. If you've read other manga such as 'Frieren: Beyond Journey's End', or have watched Studio Ghibli's 'Spirited Away', this could be the one for you!



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Over the past 8 years since the release of the first chapter, 'Witch Hat Atelier' has won multiple awards including: the Eisner Award, the Harvey Award, and the 2024 American Manga awards for best lettering and best translation.

One thing the manga and its author have been complimented for is its amazingly unique art style. The art style of the series leans more towards a classic children's book style compared to what you'd usually expect of a manga but this just adds to the distinctive charm of the series.

Another thing Witch Hat Atelier has been applauded for is its diversity; this manga presents a wide range of people and cultures in its story. I think this is especially important in our modern, extremely diverse society. We see characters of multiple different races, characters with disabilities and an openly gay couple.

American animator Dana Terrace, creator of popular animated TV show, 'The Owl House' endorsed the manga on X/Twitter, describing it as "magical, queer, heart-racing story of empathy and self-discovery". Rebecca Silverman praised 'Witch Hat Atelier' for its world, story, characters and artwork, stating "this is one tale you don't want to miss."

With an anime set to be released at the beginning of 2026 on Crunchyroll, now is the perfect time to start reading this beautifully individual manga and get yourself into this world of magic, manipulation and mystery!

## Wrestlemania 41

**By Daisha Jones**



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To kick off this year's annual competition, Gunther—who's spent 80% of his WWE career as a champion—faced off against Jey Uso, son of the legendary Rikishi, brother to Jimmy Uso and Solo Sikoa, and an eight-time tag team champion. After winning the 2025 Royal Rumble, Jey didn't expect the World Heavyweight Champion to ambush him on Monday Night Raw. Gunther, like many others, underestimated Jey, seeing him as an easy target. But his mind games backfired. Instead of fear, Jey responded with fire.

Gunther couldn't resist the challenge. Over the next two months, the two clashed weekly on Raw, with Gunther constantly belittling Jey. But with support from Sami Zayn and his brother Jimmy, Jey stood tall. When WrestleMania arrived, Jey's entrance electrified the crowd. Always a fan favourite, he fed off their energy and turned the tables—using Gunther's own sleeper hold to choke out the champion and claim the World Heavyweight Title.

Meanwhile, two women who've reshaped wrestling—Jade Cargill and Naomi—were on a collision course. Jade, a top free agent, signed with WWE just before the 2024 Royal Rumble. Naomi, a veteran with accolades across WWE and TNA, joined forces with Jade and Bianca Belair to form a dominant trio. But in November, Jade was mysteriously attacked and slammed onto a car windshield. Bianca had to choose: relinquish the tag titles or find a new partner. In the end, she chose Naomi.

## Why You Need to Have At Least One Creative Hobby

By Lindsey Atkins

One of the distinctive things about human beings is their ability to turn their imagination into a reality. Whether that is achieved through painting, dancing, writing or any form of art is irrelevant, the fact remains: we are built for creativity. Our minds and our bodies are wired to *make*. To design. To construct.

Our imagination is dying. We have forgotten how to think without the aid of machines. We use AI to write our stories and paint the images we used to make ourselves. The people who pour their hearts and souls into their pieces, their performances, are now few and far between. This is a detrimental problem. We are so afraid to create purely from our minds because we believe that a robot can do better. A robot has no feelings to instil into what it makes. A robot is a poor substitute for human talent.

We cannot – *should not* – lose our creativity. The decline of it is a drawback, yes, but this issue can be fixed. Pick up a hobby. One that requires your brain to work in a way that is different to how it would function if you were doing a sport. When you create, your brain works harmoniously. Everything is moving together. In sports, there are areas of your brain that work more or less than others in order to perform as efficiently as possible. While your mind is operational during both activities, it is important to balance out *how*.

Creativity strengthens your imagination and encourages you to adapt to the mistakes you will make. Find your passion in theatre or literature or art. Don't wait for inspiration. Don't hesitate to pick up a pencil or a paintbrush because AI might 'do it better.' Create. Inspire. It is what makes you human.

## The Wave Bristol reopens after sudden closure

By Penny Horswill



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The Wave, based in Northern Bristol, attracts the UK's professional surfing talent and tourism. Unfortunately, it had a sudden closure on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> of June**.

The Wave, which is powered by solar, cost £26 million and 10 years to build. It finally opened its doors to the public in 2019. Now, in 2025 it has generated over 10 million waves from renewable energy with 650,000 surf sessions and 250 million surfers in its five years of being open to the public.

On Thursday last week, The Wave was reported to be having problems with involuntary bankruptcy. This led to an immediate closure of the site with little to no warning to the public, resulting in all bookings being cancelled and their website shutting down.

A few days after its closure on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, The Wave was acquired by a new company called Sea Level Wave, with Julian Topham (the founder of Boardmasters surf festival) being appointed as CEO. Julian has published an article of his thoughts on the wave's closure. This is what he had to say: "I have known about The Wave since it was just an idea, and have surfed it many times since it opened in 2019. I have worked in the surf industry for 25+ years and in my view, The Wave is an extremely important part of the UK surf community. It has the ability to grow and support a diverse and inclusive surf community. I want to ensure it stays that way, and thrives, for the long-term."

After Julian had bought The Wave, it had opened just in time for the 2025 English para surfing open competition to take place.

The Wave now looks like it is in promising hands for the future with multiple upcoming community events and celebrations.

## The Magnificence of Cats

By Vesper Adams & Scarlett Neal

Cats are by far one of the most interesting creatures and have sparked intrigue and speculation throughout time and cultures.

Cats have been treasured and adored since before the Egyptians, with Egyptians probably being the most well-known lovers of these mystical felines. Egyptians believed cats possessed divine energy which granted good luck and protection, leading to them being treated with great respect and veneration. This belief originated with their association with the goddess Bastet, but also relates to other deities like Ra. This worship went so far that when a cat died their owners would shave off their eyebrows and mourned until they grew back!

Much like Egyptians superstitions about cats have been carried through many generations by various different cultures. In many myths black cats are considered ill omens or even witches in disguise.

However, in Japan and the UK, a black cat crossing your path is a sign of good luck. Likewise, grey cats are considered lucky in India.

Whereas in maritime communities cats are believed to have more specific abilities like being able to predict weather changes. This is similar to Wales where they thought that cat caused them.

In the Netherlands stories say that cats love a good gossip and will happily blab all your deepest and darkest secrets if given the chance.

In other cultures superstitions stray further from a possible reality with it being believed that a fairy cat would bless your house if you left a saucer of milk on your doorstep. Another wild tale from Southern Europe is that if a cat jumps across a grave, the dead buried beneath will rise again as a vampire.



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Northern Europe and Iceland share the story of a giant Yule cat that would eat the children who hadn't completed their chores on Christmas.

But, of course, the most well-known and popular myth is that cats have nine lives.



Image included with kind permission of Google.

## The Language of Cat

Teach me the language of cat;

The slow-motion blink, that crystal stare,

A tight-lipped purr and a wide-mouthed hiss.

Let me walk with a saunter, nose in the air.

Teach my ears the way to ignore

Names that I'm called. May they only twitch

To the distant shake of a boxful of biscuits,

The clink of a fork on a china dish.

Teach me that vanishing trick

Where dents in cushions appear, and I'm missed.

Show me the high-wire trip along fences

To hideaway places that no-one but me knows exist.

Don't teach me Dog,

All eager to please; that slobbers, yaps and begs for a pat,

That sits when told by its owner, that's led on a lead.

No, not that. Teach me the language of cat.

## Your Next Holiday: Where Will You Go?

By Cathryn Dzialowska, Fatima Al Shelbi, Iva Emilova

Have you ever wanted to travel the world and see amazing places? Well, we've picked some of the coolest destinations from different countries that are definitely worth visiting. Whether you love history, beaches, or big cities, there's something here for everyone!

Let's start with **Poland**. In **Gdańsk**, you'll find colourful buildings, cool shops, and the famous Neptune Fountain. It's also known for amber, which is fossilised tree resin used in jewellery. **Warsaw**, the capital, is a busy city with lots of history and sits on the River Vistula. Then there's **Kraków**, which feels like stepping back in time with its old town, medieval walls, and beautiful churches like St. Mary's Basilica.

Next up is **Australia**. **Melbourne** is full of art, music, and great food, especially near the Yarra River. **Sydney** is famous for the Opera House and Harbour Bridge, and you can get amazing views from the Skywalk. If you love nature, the **Great Barrier Reef** is a must-see—it's the biggest coral reef in the world and full of sea life.

In **Greece**, you can explore ancient ruins and beautiful islands. **Athens** is packed with history, like the Acropolis and the Parthenon. **Santorini** has white houses on cliffs and beaches with black and red sand. And if you're into parties, **Mykonos** is the place to be, with fun beaches and cool windmills.

**Portugal** is another awesome country. **Lisbon** has hilly streets, colourful buildings, and a castle with amazing views. **Porto** is known for its bridges and port wine, and its old town is super pretty. **Sintra** looks like something out of a fairy tale, with palaces and castles surrounded by nature.

Finally, there's **Thailand**. In **Phuket**, you can walk down old streets with colourful buildings and learn about local history. **Chiang Mai** is full of temples and has a peaceful vibe in the mountains. And in **Bangkok**, the Temple of the Emerald Buddha is one of the most important places in the country—it's really beautiful and full of culture.

So, if you ever get the chance to travel, these places are definitely worth checking out. Who knows—maybe one day you'll be writing your own travel story!



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## The History of British Gas Masks

By Noah Ealey

Imagine a soldier crouching in a trench as mustard gas fills the air. At first, all he had was a urine-soaked rag for protection. But over time, gas masks improved dramatically.

The first official British protection was the Black Veil—a simple black cotton cloth soaked in chemicals. It was basic but widely distributed. Next came the PH Hood, which had two layers to protect the skin and built-in glass eye lenses. "PH" stood for Phenate Hexamine, the chemical used to neutralise gas.

A major breakthrough was the Small Box Respirator (SBR). It had a full rubber facepiece, a mouthpiece, and a nose clip, allowing soldiers to breathe safely through a filter carried in a haversack. It was far more advanced than the heavier German masks of the time.

Later, the Mk V gas mask replaced the older Mk IV, using bare rubber instead of stocking-net for cost efficiency. During WWII, the most advanced British mask was the Light Anti-Gas Respirator (LAG), which was lightweight and had a replaceable filter.

**Note:** many old British gas masks contain asbestos so be careful if you ever see one!



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## Can Star Wars Be Saved?

By George Collett

On 25<sup>th</sup> May, 1977, crowds flocked to cinemas to witness a movie that would change film-making forever. The original 'Star Wars' was a big risk at the time, but it proved more than worthwhile. What started as a small sci-fi standalone would go on to establish one of the most beloved franchises of all time. To date, the combined box office revenues of all its theatrical releases exceeds a staggering \$10 billion! But this article isn't about the financial success of the franchise.

What the franchise began with was a creative vision. The originality of what George Lucas created is absolutely to credit for the success of that movie. It did so many new things with sound, scope, and special effects. A plethora of imaginative alien creatures and droids were designed, and the elaborate space battles (accomplished by scaled miniatures) had cinemagoers in awe.

These exciting and inspired new elements were what got fans invested, but the desperate lack of them in the modern era is what is slowly killing the franchise. Since the Disney acquisition in 2012, new Star Wars movies and TV shows have been popping up one after the other, repeating the same mistakes of their predecessors. By far the most obvious of these faults is the draining of originality from the franchise.

All the recent shows have failed for the simple reason that they aren't anything new. We've seen these characters and stories before, and the identity of each show relies heavily on what has come before. We only care to watch these shows because they feature fan-favourite characters, who we *already* care about.

But one show has proved that the hope isn't lost for the franchise. Andor was based around a tight, well-written story, and explored the Star Wars galaxy in ways we hadn't seen before. In not relying on previously well-established characters, it managed to recapture the vision that drove the original movies. Andor was a grounded narrative, which prioritised location shooting and practical effects over reliance on virtual sets and CGI.

So, Disney should be encouraged by the success of Andor, and focus now on projects that don't tread the same well-trodden path that George Lucas first walked in 1977. We should be introduced to completely new characters, and stories could be told that aren't just spinoffs of already existing movies in that era. It isn't just the passionate fans that deserve better than what we have been getting recently – with the exception of Andor.

## What to do if you Offend a Greek God

By Poppy Golder

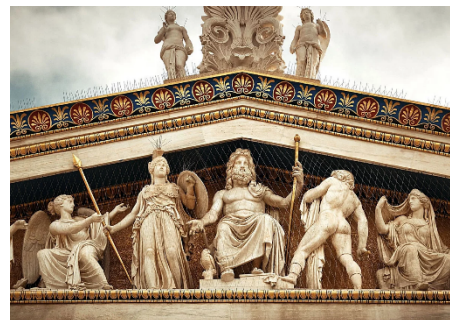


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If you offend one of the Greek gods or goddesses, you'll probably know pretty quickly: they might send an illness, they might send a natural disaster, they might even curse you. Pretty bad stuff, so here's what to do:

1. Reflect on your actions and why you offended them – did you violate an oath you made or disrespect a devoted follower of theirs? Maybe you acted with hubris (yes, they can punish you for being too full of yourself).
2. Offer a genuine apology through prayer and ask for forgiveness.
3. Show your respect and devotion to the god/ goddess you offended. Not the usual everyday stuff you should be doing anyway like burning the best part of the lamb you and your company will be eating for your feast, you must go above and beyond to be forgiven. Sacrifice something worthy, like your fattest oxen and then a whole herd of sheep; offer the richest wine, the most expensive jewellery and the most precious pottery.

Good luck!

# Puzzles

## Summer Wordsearch

By Drew Westlake & Millie Payne

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| X | C | E | Q | R | X | Z | H | T | M | S | E | I | L | L | O | L | V | K | T |
| G | Z | V | S | G | E | F | B | C | G | Q | J | Z | N | T | J | Q | U | Z | Z |
| Z | G | H | F | G | F | M | A | E | R | B | S | G | T | H | S | W | F | K | L |
| M | S | J | O | Y | R | M | M | T | P | B | R | N | Z | Q | R | V | I | W | X |
| V | Z | D | N | L | N | Y | H | U | G | K | E | I | P | L | S | P | I | P | Q |
| E | M | D | N | E | I | Q | Y | T | S | T | G | M | M | F | B | C | T | S | Z |
| W | O | L | E | E | Q | D | X | K | F | I | R | M | J | R | E | M | V | S | M |
| V | F | Y | Z | C | I | G | A | V | V | V | U | I | B | S | A | G | E | U | F |
| M | X | Z | Q | J | B | R | U | Y | Q | B | B | W | Z | D | M | W | C | N | A |
| B | R | H | W | C | X | K | F | K | S | E | S | S | A | L | G | N | U | S | N |
| M | F | V | O | X | M | N | G | S | Y | H | E | F | S | Z | R | D | N | H | S |
| A | T | E | Z | H | P | H | B | N | C | N | Q | X | F | O | Y | H | T | I | P |
| E | W | Y | S | C | T | R | P | Z | R | I | Q | Z | F | R | Y | E | M | N | O |
| R | H | D | N | T | R | O | M | M | P | C | N | D | L | N | O | A | W | E | F |
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BBQ  
CREAM  
FRIENDS  
ICE  
PICNICS  
SUNSHINE  
WARM

BEACH  
FANS  
HEATWAVE  
ICE  
SUMMER  
SWIMMING

BURGERS  
FESTIVALS  
HOLIDAYS  
LOLLIES  
SUNGLASSES  
TAN

## Comic Strip

By Robin Tombs

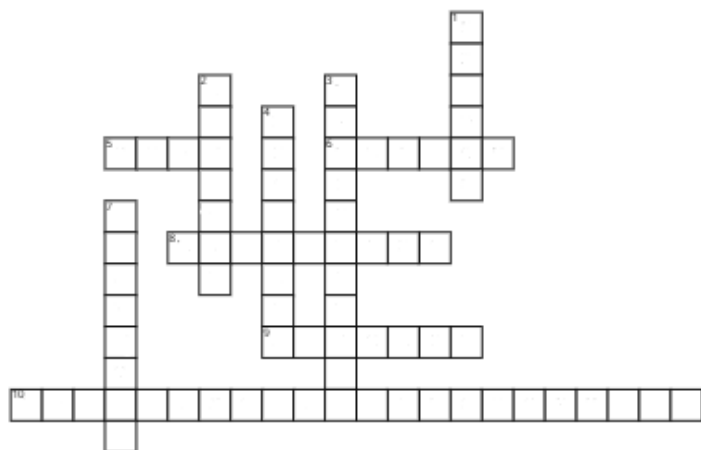


## Guess the Teacher Quiz

By Karina Diachenko & Scarlett Maurice-Brant

- Who supports Tottenham Hotspurs?
- Who is a qualified yoga teacher?
- Who danced on a stage in front of 2500 people?
- Who sold paperclips before teaching?
- Whose dad was in Barcelona's junior academy?
- Who was a journalist?
- Who was a boarding mum for 80 children?
- Who cycled the height of Mount Everest in one go?
- Who went to south East Asia?
- Who opened the door for 2 different princesses?
- Who performed at Sydney opera house in Australia?
- Who played cricket for England?
- Who fell over on national television doing the hurdles?
- Who rode a camel in front of the pyramids?
- Who performed at the Royal Albert hall?
- Who has a scuba diving licence?
- Who loves ice baths?
- Who did ballet for 16 years?
- Who is going to Canada this summer?

Answers on next page!



**Across**

5. The surname of the science teacher whose name a homophone of a famous American peanut butter chocolate brand  
6. what block of the school famously houses the most computers  
8. a teachers surname that correlates with a time of year usually represented by festivity  
9. The surname of the prestigious founding father of the creative writing club  
10. what is the name of the school's library (full name not acronym)

**Down**

1. which block is notorious for taking a long time to walk to from the main school  
2. the two humanities subjects are geography and what  
3. what sport might you be able to play using the tables positioned around the school grounds  
4. what is the surname of the male teacher whose name shares the final five letters with a cat who famously enjoys lasagne  
7. D block houses rooms for art, textiles, cooking and what?

1. Mrs Ray
2. Mrs De Silva-Morgan
3. Mr Pethybridge
4. Ms Martin
5. Miss Garcia
6. Mr Cain
7. Miss Jackson
8. Mr Pilling (IT)
9. Mr King
10. Mr Pilling (Maths)
11. Mrs Lange
12. Mrs Pearce
13. Mrs Thorner
14. Mr Bullas
15. Mr Fisher
16. Mr Price
17. Mr Kitson
18. Mrs Parnell
19. Miss Barnfield

**Cat Quiz: Which of the Following Are NOT Real Cat Breeds?**

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Turkish van   | Australian bus  |
| Savana grey   | Havana brown    |
| French tail   | LaPerm          |
| Sokoke forest | Calula mountain |
| Cornish rex   | Danish fox      |
| Trinpin       | Minskin         |
| Peterbald     | John shorthair  |
| Cerot         | Korat           |



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# Sports

## Auto Grass

**By Will Turner and Lennon Tarry**

### What is Auto Grass?

It's not your average sport. It's a sport about precision, focus and sportsmanship. You won't always win; you won't always lose. Just foot to pedal and speed - "If in doubt, flat out."

Unfortunately, Auto Grass isn't the cheapest sport. The average class 1 car costs around about £2,000. However, it is a good investment and will bring hours, days and weeks of fun for the whole family. Despite the cost, it has been one of the greatest aspects of my childhood.

### What can you get out of this sport?

With this sport you can travel up and down the country and race people from around England! It truly is the best way to see our beautiful country. Friendships become stronger, and sportsmanship is developed. It is great to cheer on your friends when they win and be supported when things don't go quite how you want!

### Why should you join Auto Grass?

Auto Grass is a motor sport that includes many different types of skills. Precision, sportsmanship and focus. All these skills are needed to try and win a race and remember, it's not about the car; it's about the driver and the experience. Auto Grass is all about having fun and racing people from around the world. This intense sport can get messy sometimes. Crashes may occur sometimes but it's rare possibility. All we want our racers to focus on is having a good time and winning races for their clubs.



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## 2025 Newsday Team

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Cathryn Dzialowska  
Ivayla Emilova  
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Ava Gembarska  
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Tiegan Goodlad  
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Phoebe Hull  
Amy Hunn  
Katie Jervis  
Daisha Jones  
Noah Kaley  
Karina Krasimirova  
Ekaterina Lockhart  
Scarlett Maurice-Brant  
Scarlett Neal  
Millie Payne  
Nathan Russell  
Gemma Seabright  
Emilia Senkyr  
Sophie Stras  
Lennon Tarry  
Alexandra Taylor  
Robin Tombs  
Will Turner  
Marcelina Tylec  
Freddie Walden  
Sophie Walters  
Anna Watton  
Drew Westlake  
Clementine White  
Martha Wride