



The WATCH Word

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Unlock your Mocks!

Year 11 Students Philia Sanoj and Amelie White share their ideas on how best to deal with the pressures of mock exams.

Mocks can be a very stressful time for people in the older years who go through multiple sets. It can also be very hard to figure out revision techniques, and how to deal with exam stress. After just completing our last round of mocks we thought that we would share our tips and tricks with you that may be useful!

Revision techniques

Now there are hundreds of revision techniques and we have narrowed down some of our favourite ones to do that are very effective. Now for starters re-reading your notes is not a good way to revise as it does not stimulate the brain to take in the information. Some of our favourite techniques are: making mind maps/posters which provides a very good visual example and can be used to link topics using branches. For active recall, techniques such as flashcards and also blurting which forces the brain to recall as much information as possible and can help you to find gaps in your knowledge. This is also known as active recall. Finally, one of the best revision techniques is past papers as it helps you to understand the style of the questions for particular subjects and looking at the mark scheme helps you to understand what the examiners are looking for. Doing revision little but often is better than doing 10 hours a day.

Exam tips

Being organised for the exams is vital to help with exam nerves. Before your exams, don't try to cram any last-minute revision as you won't retain any information so instead, ensure that you have your clear water bottle and pencil case and make sure that all of your pens work and you have sharpened pencils on hand to make sure you are prepared. Having a sip of water in certain sections of the exam can help you stay focused when your mind begins to wonder and help you get back in the zone.

If you are someone who panics or stresses during the exam, I would suggest you do this. Tap your wrist. Sounds random, right? But there is a reason why this will help you to calm down. This technique is known as Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT). The wrist is a pressure point which will lower your stress hormone. Also, techniques such as deep breathing help to lower your heart rate which can help the nerves and make you more relaxed.



We hope this helped and also it may seem hard, but don't stress as your mocks and GCSE's will fly by and you will then be in GCSE summer having the time of your life. Good luck and remember, it's just a number on a sheet of paper, not your life ending.

House Points Standings

Whittle seem to be storming ahead this year. With only a few more months left of this year's competition, can the other houses catch up in time?

Stay tuned to find out!



239'338
Points



228'388
Points



233'940
Points



249'299
Points



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THE VI FORM FORUM

HEADS UP FOR THE HEAD-STUDENTS



This week, Sixth Form reporter, and head student applicant, Sophie Sysum devles into what actually makes a good head student application? What should we be looking out for? How do we make the right choice? Find out below!

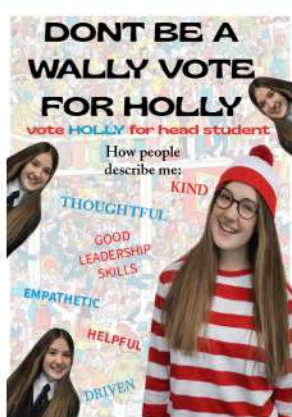
What makes a good Head Student? Well, that depends very much on who you ask. There are a myriad of personal qualities that go into being a good Head Student and, realistically, no one person will hold all of those attributes. With that in mind, its important to identify the key qualities that every Head Student should possess. So where do you start?

First, when looking at the manifestos of the candidates, you should look for someone who makes realistic promises that can be achieved in their year within the role. This is important as it shows that you can trust the person you are voting for not to be unrealistic with how they view the school, because they've set out achievable targets.

Also, you should look for someone who seems approachable. This is a key, as a Head Student should be someone who you feel you can, not only take your ideas and suggestions to, but will also take them on board. Someone who will always listen to other students and do what they truly think is best for the school; someone you believe you can trust.

A Head Student also needs to be someone who can speak in front of people and can represent the school. They are, after all, the face of Sixth Form. They will be present at open evenings and Remembrance Day assemblies and so needs to be reliable under pressure. They also need to be comfortable with talking to new people in order to promote our school, its values and the Chosen Hill spirit.

Now it's not easy picking a head student team especially as we have 11 amazing candidates this year. Hopefully, these tips will help guide you in your decision for your vote towards the head student team.





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Ace Your Interview!

Having just completed their Mock Interview experiences, We asked Josh Saunders to share some of his top pieces of advice on how to nail your interview.

On average 90% of people do not get their job after an interview. Year 10s have their mock interviews on the 25th and 26th of March and I would like to share some tips for the interview so you can ace it and get your dream job (if it was real and not mocks.)

One tip for an interview would be to research the company as this is crucial to demonstrating genuine interest and proves you are serious about taking this role. You have gone beyond the description to understand the organisation. Researching the company can also prepare you for intelligent questions about projects and challenges you may face during the interview process. If this was a real interview you would gain a competitive edge over the other people applying for an interview.

Another tip for an interview would be to use what is known as the STAR method; which stands for Situation Task Action Result. This is important for an interview because you provide a structured, clear and concise way to answer behavioural questions ensuring you highlight relevant

experiences without rambling. It helps turn abstract skills into examples. Think of it like a story you have a beginning a middle and end ensuring you do not skip important details.

Finally, during the interview here are some tips. Focus on demonstrating skills and actively listen engage and communicate. DO NOT rush your answers. Always highlight your strengths and examples where you have shown these things. Remember your body language, sit up straight, natural eye contact, smile. Always stay honest and professional never speak about past employers or teachers in a bad light as this could always come back to haunt you like the Ghost of Christmas Past.





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CHOSEN HILL SPORTS PAGE

Chosen Hill Sports



By Sophie Prentis-Hart

To start of this month, Year 9s to the District Netball Tournament and they did really well, showing lots of determination and good teamwork the whole time. They won 3 out of their 5 games, which is really impressive considering the tough teams they were up against. It really shows how much they've improved this season.

Our Year 8s also played in the tournament and represented the school really well. They brought loads of energy, stayed positive, and showed great team spirit in all their matches.

We also had netball matches against Balcarras for both Year 8 and Year 9. Everyone showed improvement, communicated well on court, and kept a really positive attitude. These games were great for building confidence and getting more experience.

Well done to the Year 7 football team as well, who played a really strong game and kept control of the ball for most of it. They were unlucky not to score the winning goal, but it was still a great performance and shows a lot of potential for the rest of the season.

Finally, a big well done to the Year 11 football team, who won 2-1 against Churchdown in a really close and competitive match. They stayed focused and worked hard the whole game, so it was definitely a well-deserved win.



A Glitch in Time: The unsung women behind the first digital computer

By Sophia Rowe



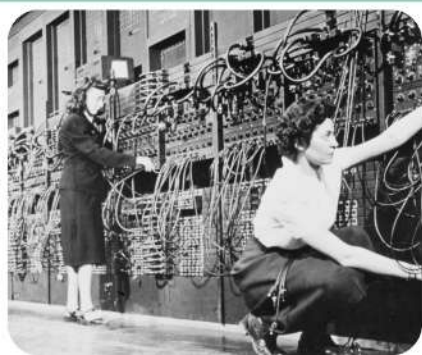
You may have noticed that, throughout history, men have 'discovered' most of our greatest inventions and remarkable theories. But what if I told you that that's not actually the case!

For centuries, the patriarchy has driven the construct of society. It has deprived women of being acknowledged and recognised in the fields of science and technology, considering them intellectually inferior to men. And yet nothing could be further from the truth.

At the start of WW2, the engineering district fell short of male recruits, so as a final resort, the government started recruiting women. They trained six women on the basics of ENIAC (pronounced any-ac), a large-scale computer-stylized machine that was supposed to help with coordination in the war. Kathleen McNulty, Frances Bilas, Betty Jean-Jennings, Ruth Lichterman, Elizabeth Snyder and Marlyn Wescoff were put in charge of the operatives of the ENIAC.

These women worked tirelessly to fix the glitches and sluggishness of the machine and worked to great extent to enhance things like its calculative speed. But through media coverage, the ENIAC was made to look as if it was a self-running technological invention made by male engineers: Presper, Eckert and Mauchly - completely disregarding the effort of six women.

So, the next time you open your laptop just remember the history behind the first electronic computer, and how it has developed throughout time, both through science and the continuous fall of sexism.





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Book of the Month



Six of Crows

Leigh Bardugo

by Philia Sanoj

In the bustling town of Ketterdam, Kaz Brekker, a criminal and owner of a gambling hall, has been given a deadly heist that could make him ridiculously rich, but he doesn't do this alone. Six dangerous outcasts. One impossible heist.

Six of crows is written by Leigh Bardugo, who is #1 New York Times bestselling author of Ninth House and the creator of the Grishaverse which is now a Netflix series. Six of crows is the first in a duology which consists of Six of Crows and Crooked kingdom, both jaw dropping books. It's a young adult fantasy book which is loved worldwide. Even though it's 480 pages, it's filled with endless plots, which makes you not want to stop reading.

I wish I could get on a time machine; go back to the day I started reading this book just so I can rejoice it all over again. It's such a good read that I could reread this a million times, and I still won't get bored of it. The only downside was that it was very hard to understand. While the intricate world-building can be overwhelming at first, the payoff is well worth the initial confusion.

You will get emotionally attracted to each character very quickly. They all had heart-breaking stories which makes the found family concept even better.

Overall, this book is a Rollercoaster of events and is beautifully written. Loved every page and I absolutely had a wonderful time binge reading this book. *****



Chosen Hill's The Bake Off

By Oscar Vaughan

On the 3rd of March, 20 bakers were tasked with making Easter themed cookies. Between period 3 through to 5, the bakers were hard at work. Noushien from The Village Cakery was extremely impressed with the standards of baking and the enthusiasm shown by all the bakers. However, there could only be 1 winner. In joint third place, was Caian Rolfe and Amara Akadonye, both in Masefield, scoring 22/25. In second place was Lola Patterson-Browe in 7HC, scoring 23/25. And in first place was.... drumroll please! Zak Dominczak in 8CS scoring a full 25/25! Special mentions to Olivia Richard's and Rory Workman in 8CW who both stepped in as reserves on the morning of the final with no briefing. Congratulations to Scott, who won the bake-off

Back in February, students from across the school were given the opportunity to participate in a bake sale for Maggie's cancer charity. The cakes were then judged, and 20 students progressed to the technical Eme Matthews-Rowe in 8CM spoke to us: "House bake-off was fun and I enjoyed it a lot. I found it challenging to decorate the biscuits with the icing, but I did it in the end!". Ollie Mills, another competitor, said: "The bake-off was fun, but pressure and tiredness made itself known. In the end, I managed to control it and succeeded in my bake." We're looking forward to what next year's bake-off brings that's for sure.





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Media Corner



Movie of the Month IF

(Krasinski, USA, 2024)

Have you ever wanted to watch a film that perfectly captures the essence of having an imaginary friend? Then look no further than the movie IF. With a 6.4 rating on IMDb and a 51% on rotten tomatoes.

IF is a film about a girl named Bea (Cailey Fleming) who starts to see people's imaginary friends. She then soon meets Cal (Ryan Reynolds), who is trying to pair these beings with new people.

My favorite character was 'unicorn' due to my love for the character design, and I just have a soft spot for characters played by Emily Blunt due to her being one of my favorite actors of all time! My favorite scene has to be the casting call scene with the main human characters and the bear character interviewing the imaginary friends, I just thought it was hilarious, and them trying to get the kid to see any of the imaginary

friends was so sweet.

I think the fact that the idea for this movie had stuck with the writer for around 7 years before he made the film was very sweet too, the fact an idea stuck around for that long before you even wrote it means this is something you need to write, which must be true since the film grossed over \$190.3 million which is around £143.5 million. I really enjoyed IF and if I'd rate it 7/10!

Video Game Highlight:

Geometry Dash

By Joe Cox - Media Correspondent



People generally aren't too fond of maths; especially the harder topics, like algebra being included in geometry. However, this game isn't about finding 'X' at all! This is a fast-paced, auto scrolling, platformer game, with endless possibilities. So, are you ready to dominate on a geometric trap?

This game has a pretty simple aim: Jump over obstacles and reach the end. Quick thinking and fast reaction times are extremely helpful in this game. You can collect hidden coins, which are located in harder, more challenging sub routes that make you think. You can also customise your little blocky avatar and other game modes based on a diverse multitude of different designs and colours. Fan made levels, however, are what make this game so widely spread in popularity and, without it, this game would feel empty.

It's because of these fan-made levels that I absolutely love this game. People can be so creative with the level editor; creating masterpieces that utilise all this game has to offer. However, you have to have sharp focus, especially when the decorations and obstacles are hard to interpret.

Geometry Dash is a paid game on the phone, so not everyone might be able to access it. There's a free version, however, but you need to be prepared for ads every 6 - 7 tries. This, in my eyes, can be really frustrating, especially when I'm 'in the zone'.

In conclusion, this game is stimulating and is also very enjoyable and I would highly recommend. However, I understand this game may not be for everyone.

5*****





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Media Corner



Curtain Call Reviews: Year 8: Easter Fair

By Sophie Prentis-Hart

The Easter fair was a brilliant event run by the year 8s with stalls like a Tombola, a make your own drinks stand and even one to throw water balloons at a teacher. I loved walking around and seeing how everyone had decorated their stalls. I also loved seeing all the ideas that people had thought of.

Each tutor had around 5 stalls whether it was a game, selling edibles or an experience they all turned out amazing. Setting up the stalls taught us many skills such as teamwork, independence (when we had to make our own things), the importance of communication and much more.

Everyone had an amazing time the year 7s walking around, the sixth formers and the teachers. I loved helping to set up my groups stall, think of ideas and make posters.

Some of the stalls that stood out to me were a make your own drinks stand where you got to pick your drink, some fruit and then a straw or fun thing to go with your drink. As well as that stall there was one where you had to guess the name of a rabbit and if you guessed the correct one you won it. There were also some very good cake stalls that I could tell people had spent a lot of time making. The Easter fair was a great experience that I am very happy to be a part of, and I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.

A Year 7's Take on Year 8's Easter Fair

By Oscar Vaughan



Back in December, the Year 7s did a Christmas Fair, which the Year 8s attended. However, the tables have turned, and it was the Year 8s turn to host the Easter Fair. Here is a COMPLETELY unbiased review on it.

It was rubbish. That's it. End of. Ok... That is a bit biased.... VERY biased. I did say it would be unbiased. I'll start this paragraph again.

A few weeks back, the Year 7s took it in turns to visit the Year 8 Easter Fair during period 5. Chosen went first, and Hill second. There was a wide range of diverse types of stalls: food, drinks and sweets; tombola's and raffles; and various games. Even Mr Care volunteered to get soaked with wet sponges. What people will do for charity eh?

It lasted around 20 minutes for each side as the clean-up after took the Year 8s a LONG TIME. You'd think people would not have time to spend that much... well, you are WRONG. I heard that someone had spent a whole £20 in under that whole time. Unbelievable. The prices on things did not go higher than £1! Crazy good deals! I managed to get some new things for my pencil case, and some food, all of which costed my only £3!

In conclusion, the Year 7 and 8 fairs were good in their own ways, and for that, I would call them EQUAL... Nah, Year 7s are always the best!





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Ask the Department

We asked on of the delectable Drama Department one simple question. You won't believe their responses!

"Hermione Granger. She is such a strong and intelligent female main character."
 - Ms Barks



"Luna Lovegood. unconventional and she is the character I feel the most affinity with"
 - Ms Marston

This month we asked:
 If you could dress up for world book day, who would you come as?



"If my knees could take it, scuttling around as Gollum from 'The Lord of the Rings' would be fun"
 - Mr Blake



"Little miss Chatterbox"
 - Ms Henry



"Katniss Everdeen"
 - Ms Forster





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Meet the Teacher

1. What is your role in school?

Assistant Headteacher including Designated Safeguarding & Mental Health Lead (for staff as well as students) I teach Art and Photography and the extended project qualification (EPQ) in Sixth Form.

2. What do you enjoy doing at the weekends?

I like getting out and about with my camera or editing photos and video. Playing badminton or cricket (or the piano or guitar) depending on the season and getting to church on a Sunday morning. Trying to coax my teenage son away from his gaming and also, sleep...

3. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

So many places, it is difficult to decide - probably somewhere with animals / nature that I could photograph.... Galapagos islands or Amazon rainforest??

4. If you didn't work in a school, what job would you want to do outside of your subject and why?

Could I have wildlife photographer (or filmmaker?) if not, maybe running a cat-café (self explanatory?)

5. If you could ask any celebrity to dinner, who would it be and why?

Banksy - I think he (or she?) would be fascinating to talk to about the power of social commentary through art.

6. What item on your bucket list are you most looking forward to doing and why?

Travel - for the experience - no other reason.

7. If you were stuck on a desert island, what book, film, song and food would you want to be stuck with and why?

Watership down, Pretty Woman, Ride a white swan (T-Rex) and cheese. All remind me of specific times / people or events in my life - and withstand repetitive reading, watching, listening.... or eating!

8. If you were a kid again for a day what would you do and why?

Play cricket with my dad.

9. Did you do any other jobs before becoming a teacher, if so what was it?

I had summer jobs while I was at university... ranging from working in Ginster's pasty factory to being a night security guard in big corporate buildings in North London. I absolutely, categorically and definitely did not leave school wanting to be a teacher!

10. What is your favourite thing about teaching and why?

Conversations about creative ideas, and seeing 'ah ha!' moments when students really understand something and get excited about it.



Mrs Chodera