

THE MO

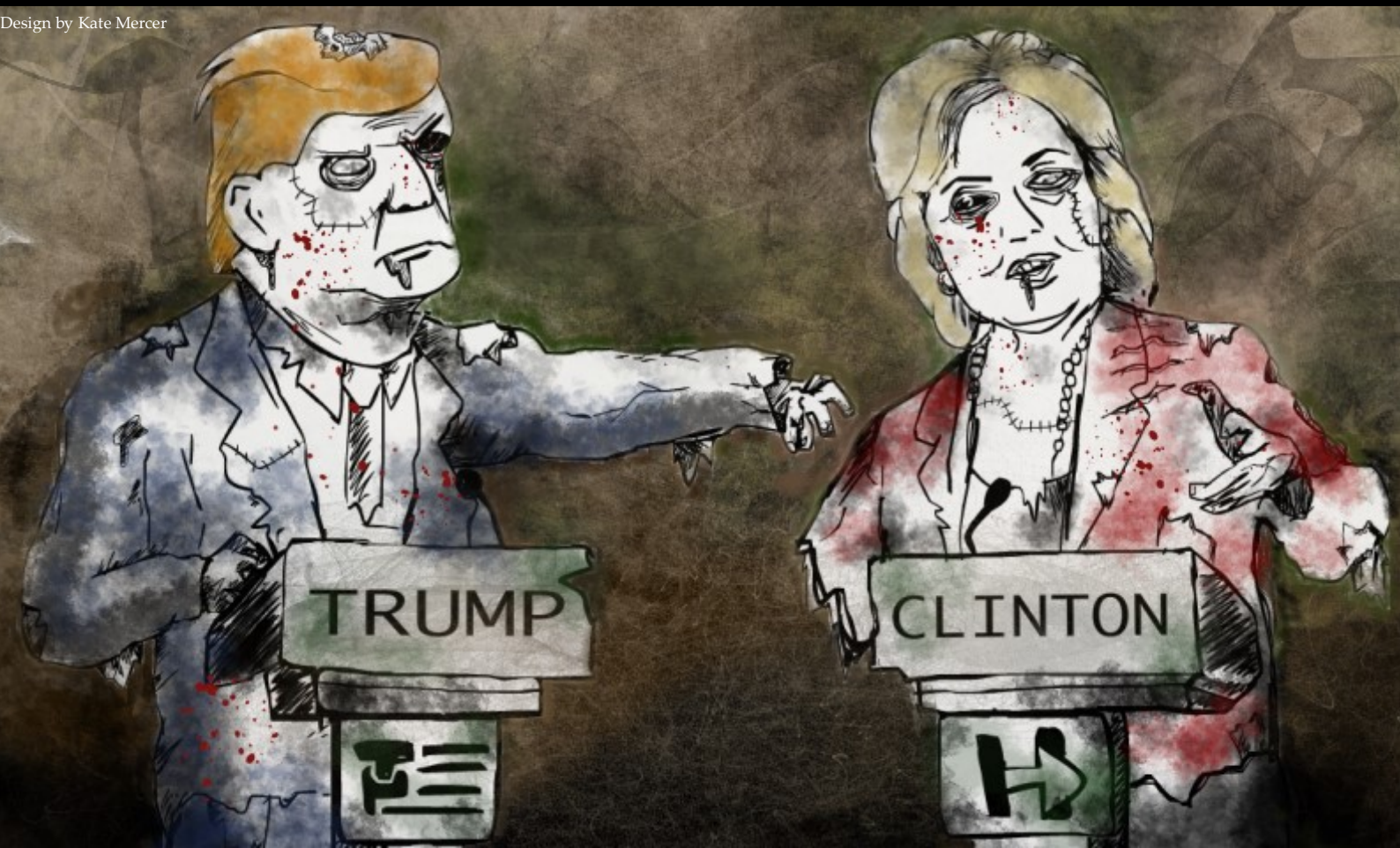
WRITTEN BY THE STUDENTS, FOR THE STUDENTS

ZOMBIE OBSESSED:

WHY IS THE CURRENT GENERATION
SO EAGER FOR AN APOCALYPSE?

WHY BEING A
WOMAN HAS
NEVER
BEEN EASY

Design by Kate Mercer



POKEMON GO?

MORE LIKE
POKEMON GONE...

GEEK CHIC

"IT'S NEVER BEEN
COOLER TO BE AN
OBSESSIVE ONLINE
ADDICT..."

CONTENTS

ZOMBIE NATION

CLOWNTOBER

AN EFFORTLESS HALLOWEEN

HALLOWEEN RECIPE

BEING A WOMAN

GEEK CHIC

MS THOMSON

HARRY POTTER AND THE MAGIC

PHILOSOPHICAL RAMBLINGS

POKEMONE GONE

AJ: THE RISE OF A STAR

ENGLISH MANAGER—A CURSE JOB?

A SMILE A DAY: TRIBUTE TO THE WONDERFUL AND MISSED MR WILLIAMS

THE DEFINITE ARTICLE



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS

October is here and by now, autumn is well underway. The shops have rocked out with pumpkin-themed goodies, zombies, clowns and scary cat costumes are the look du jour. And here at The Mo it seemed fitting that we joined in too.

This month, The MO will provide you with some insight into why zombies really are brilliant; the wonderful world of geek-culture and a beautiful tribute for the wonderful Mr Williams.

With the recent events that have happened, I want everyone to really just stop and reflect

on the moments that we have and cherish them. We don't want to waste precious moments; instead, we need to stop letting the small dark things bother us and remember the good. My thoughts are with the Williams family; I cannot express sufficiently how saddened and shocked I am by the loss of such a brilliant teacher. He will be truly missed.

From me and everyone on the team, we hope you love this issue as much as we do.

NC x

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ZOMBIE NATION!



Why are we so nuts about the end of the world?

As autumn approaches, so does the thirst for Halloween: a time to bake ghost-shaped cookies and drink pumpkin spice latte while co-sying down to watch some spooky shows. The theme of a zombie apocalypse has almost become a new genre in the sense that it is the setting of some of the most popular thriller films, games and TV shows. For example, *28 Days Later*, *World War Z* and my personal favourite *The Walking Dead* are all huge.

The Walking Dead, according to *Independent magazine* is the third most watched show on television with the 2014 season 5 finale becoming the most watched episode in cable history.

But why is *The Walking Dead* so popular? The die-hard fans of the show are hooked because of its 'suspenseful structure, immersive cliff-hangers and how attached you are to the characters'. While others believe it's a 'repetitive waste of time where idiots with awful accents run around killing zombies'.

However, the show is not just about the zombies - or "walkers". Each episode is a generous 40 minutes that goes by like 10, with every episode leaving you hanging off the edge of your seat. You stare at the screen being tormented at the realisation that any of your favourite characters could die within a second - even if they are a vital part to the plot or are just on their way to becoming part of the action. It is the utter torture that you can't help but crave.

In addition, think of zombies you may imagine the cliché *Shaun of the Dead* zombies with no arms (when you can really see them tucked under the blood soaked t-shirt).

However, on *The Walking Dead* the attention by make-up and special effects crews ensure that the guts, gore and ghoulish makeup for the walkers is scarily believable. CGI, puppets and animatronics all make the horror as realistic and entertaining for the audience as possible. Overall, they want to make the audience think "How did they do that?"

For others, it's the interest in what we - as the human race - would become if there was a zombie apocalypse. Throughout *The Walking Dead* the characters deteriorate as the desperation of survival causes them to do the unimaginable, twisted and pure evil. Life becomes a race to the finish line with the strongest finishing first. The 21st Century twists into a 'Lord Of The Flies' situation as they realise that the threat isn't just the walkers. We thrive off this dystopian world because it makes us wonder if we would react the same way as the characters in the show.

So much so that there are even websites with quizzes about it, for instance, BuzzFeed. They have numerous quizzes like: 'How long would you survive in a Zombie Apocalypse?', 'Could you actually survive a zombie attack?', 'Which walking dead survivor are you?'. The list goes on.

After six successful seasons and the seventh season just kicking off, it's safe to say that *The Walking Dead* is a great TV show - and what better time to start watching it than Halloween?

CLOWNTOBER

Tick Tock.

Time to get the costumes out, time to be someone else

Tick Tock

Better get the sweets, better get the chocolates

Tick Tock

Watch your back, watch your every step.

The moon is full and bright

and we shall see what cannot be seen

on any other night,

Tick Tock.

Time to get the costumes out, time to be someone else

Tick Tock

Better get the sweets, better get the chocolates

Tick Tock

Watch your back, watch your every step.

It's the leaves, clinging on

like fingers intertwined though hands, clenching for vitality,

it's the fall of life, the dancing of pigments and the parallel of human life

Tick Tock.

Time to get the costumes out, time to be someone else

Tick Tock

Better get the sweets, better get the chocolates

Tick Tock

Watch your back, watch your every step.

Shadows of thousand years rise again unseen

voices whisper in the trees,

"Tonight's Halloween."

By Poppy Khanom



AN EFFORTLESS HALLOWEEN



Let's talk about scary fashion trends.

And no, I don't mean Crocs, nude latex and see-through leggings (although these do send a shiver down my spine). I'm talking about Halloween! Who doesn't love Halloween? There's a pressure to look gnarly and original whilst being comfortable and make it look like you didn't try at all, and if you can achieve all of the above it's GREAT. The struggle is very real – and even more so being a teenager that will most likely get invited to fancy dress parties where people will take millions of photos and post them on every single social media platform.

Creepiness, spookiness and looking scary are what Halloween is all about right? Not anymore. It's about who can look the most kissable rather than the most shocking. The essence of Halloween has been lost at the same speed as the material for the costumes. Halloween was once a time when you could be someone else for a day. Masks were **THE** thing when it came to spooky costumes and if you were able to accomplish scaring someone you had achieved the ultimate Halloween goal.

Nowadays, women choose costumes that are over sexualised. There's an expectation to look provocative and men are expected to look funny. If you browse the web for costumes to wear, 90% of the selection for women is items with the word 'sexy' in their description. This isn't what we should aspire to look like or have people expecting us to do so. Of course looking good is something that the majority of people want, myself included, but it

shouldn't be only about that. The most important thing is to feel comfortable in your own skin and what you choose to wear. So if you want to wear a "sexy nurse covered in blood" costume, by all means go ahead, you are going to look fabulous. But, if you want to wear a lobster suit (mask included) go ahead, because again, you are going to look fabulous. And gentlemen, if you want to dress up as your favourite character from a TV show that your "mates" don't watch – do it. Not only will you feel amazing, but you will be teaching everyone a lesson about originality and staying true to yourself.

Now, let's talk about originality. Halloween has been around for centuries; therefore, whilst the classic ideas of being a ghost, a princess, a vampire, a superhero or a cat are still acceptable, just bear in mind the amount of books, TV series, movies, there are. It isn't hard to find a cool fictional character who you identify enough with to want to become them for the day. Due to the vast and varied opportunities there are to party dressing up for Halloween is not exclusive to 31st October anymore and the run up to Halloween is always full of social antics involving some fierce costume (yes, the pun is intended!).

The message I am trying to convey is enjoy Halloween wearing the costume that you want to wear; because at the end of the day, Halloween is an opportunity to have fun and create memories, no matter if you're 5 or 105.

Xoxo, C.



SPIDER WEB CHOCOLATE FUDGE MUFFINS

Ingredients

- 50g dark chocolate
- 85g butter
- 1 tbsp milk, water or coffee
- 20g self-raising flour
- ½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 85g light brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 142ml sour cream

For the topping

- 100g dark chocolate
- 100g white chocolate

Method

Preheat the oven to fan 170°C/conventional 190°C/gas 7, and line a muffin tin with 10 paper muffin cases. Break the chocolate into a heat-proof bowl, add the butter and liquid. Melt in the microwave on Medium for 30-45 seconds (or set the bowl over a pan of gently simmering water). Stir and leave the mixture to cool. Mix the flour, bicarbonate of soda and both sugars in a bowl. Beat the egg in another bowl and stir in the soured cream, then pour this on

the flour mixture and add the

cooled chocolate. Stir just to combine – don't over mix or it will get tough.

Spoon the mixture into the cases to about three quarters full. Bake for 20 minutes until well risen. Loosen the edges with a round-bladed knife, let them sit in the tins for a few minutes, then lift out and cool on a wire rack.

For the topping, make two piping bags out of greaseproof paper (or cut the ends off two clean plastic bags). Break the dark and white chocolate into separate bowls and melt in the microwave on Medium for 2 minutes (or over a pan as in step 1). Put 2 spoonful's of dark chocolate in one bag and the same of white chocolate in the other.

Working with one muffin at a time, spread with dark chocolate from the bowl, letting it run down a bit, then pipe four concentric circles of white chocolate on top. Using a small skewer, drag through the circles at regular intervals, from the centre to the edge, to create a cobweb effect. Repeat with four more muffins. On the remaining five, spread over the white chocolate and decorate with the dark.



BEING A WOMAN



Sophie Brown explores why being a woman in the 21st Century you don't have much too worry about.

It seems like feminism has done her job and women are entitled the opportunities we've always wanted. What we might have to worry about however, is the looming fact that Donald Trump may in fact win the forthcoming USA elections and in doing so, women may be subjected to his "locker room" chat.

So, with this in mind it got me thinking: have things really changed? Throughout history women have been victims of unnecessary violence and inequality – but arguably one of the most chilling of these anti-female purges was the countless witch trials that raged like wildfire across continents killing over 50,000 women in the seventeenth and eighteenth century.

These witch trials fascinate me. Where did this paranoia come from? Did people actually believe women were casting black magic? Or did everyone use it just for an excuse to hide fear and hatred of women under a blanket of Puritanism carefully knitted together by the witch-finder general, Matthew Hopkins?

The latter was probably true. It was around the 1600s when women started to become more independent: it was the era of Queen Elizabeth the 1st Queen whom did not marry and reportedly had her pick of lovers; women were becoming poets and writers; medicines and treatments were increasingly given by female apothecaries; it was a time of patriarchy and women started to realize that being a wife was not all that was there for them. They had begun to realize they could gain and maintain power. This, in short, frightened people; causing them to rise against this new-found power and destroy it before their lives were changed forever.

One of the more notable parts of this disturbing period of witch hunts – was the Salem Witch Trials. This hap-

pened in New England, America during the 1600s in a small town surrounded by rolling forests, where young girls started to experience this delusional illness that made them excuse their older neighbours of doing it to them, thus bringing the idea of witchcraft and sorcery around. Because of these accusations, 19 people were killed by hanging and over two hundred were sent to prison. The most disturbing part of this that people thought they were doing right, that by riding these lives they thought they were restoring peace and purging out sin. That by 'doing right' the world killed thousands and thousands of innocents.

This mass hysteria was insane; friends were turning on friends, neighbours were turning on neighbours, and women were turning on women – until no one was safe from one another. What baffles me was the fact that the beginning of the Salem Witch Trials was caused by young women turning in other women! Were they frightened of their future that was reflected in these older women? Or were they so brainwashed by society did they really believe that this new-found independence was poisonous? It's interesting to see how much control people can have over other people – that societies can convince nations that witches are out there. That they can influence nations that by killing these innocent women they are doing right...

Which leads me back to the crisis called Donald Trump. Despite what you have been hearing on the news, despite the havoc that is been caused by this so called "locker room talk". If our future ever does depend on this man – don't recline to silence, don't get scared and do what our ancestors do but rather speak out and show the world that, actually, women do deserve a voice, that we do deserve a place in a **woman, man and they** society and that being a women is nothing to be ashamed of.

GEEK CHIC

You like D&D, Audrey Hepburn, Fangoria, Harry Houdini, and croquet. You can't swim, you can't dance, and you don't know karate. Face it. You're never gonna make it.' - Gerard Way

Weirdo! Freak! Keeno! Nerd! Geek! Or, even the more niche, Weeaboo.' We've all heard these words being slung around, sometimes meaning to insult, sometimes jokingly. But, do you know what, it's never been more cool to be an obsessive online addict of Sherlock and Dr Who, anime and Magic the Gathering, Lord of the Rings and Green Day.

This is because our species has begun our planned infiltration into the world of the norms. A few years ago, if you wanted to buy Pokémon or Star Wars merchandise, and you were over the age of six, you would either have to look in the children's section of your local TK Max (frankly demoralising) visit the secret London Geek underworld (shady corners of Camden Market, Forbidden Planet, The Trocadero Centre and the likes), or shop online. Asian websites are rather exciting to navigate, but you never quite know when you'll end up ordering four of the same thing, or if they will arrive 10 months later. Now you can buy your Star Wars knickers in Top Shop! And wear geek chic with pride.

We like to think of London MCM Comic Con as our mother-nest, visited twice yearly. I was introduced to this beautiful and weird event at the weak and impressionable age of seven. Ever since then I have returned again and again. My thirst for geekiness only truly being quenched when I am there and dressed in the most fetching of homemade costumes. However, what I have realised it that we are all having to learn to share. When I attended this glamorous event in May, I was one of 130,000 people. That's a lot of fabulous geeks. In fact, every year I return to the mother-nest to find it more and more crowded. Now you can always count on a terrifyingly fantastic amount of geeks to be present. So many, in fact, that an extension has been built. The whole event has expanded to at least four times its original size; and miniature me thought 2009's October London Expo was busy...

Don't worry if you don't understand why this has happened. Truthfully, we're a tad confused too. Personally, I blame Tumblr. If you haven't heard of this website you've probably been living under a rock. (Do you even get wi-fi down there?) A self proclaimed 'alternative' social media website Tumblr has become the virtual



nest for geeks all over the world.

When *fangirls* group together in such packs they are quite scary, so I would advise you visit it at your own discretion. Although I personally don't use Tumblr (I know all too well that I would never go outside again) I am all too familiar with the thousands of fandoms squashed into it. Harry Potter, Supernatural, Naruto, [insert band name here], Youtube, *Les Misérables* - you name it, they've got it.

As I said, no one knows the exact science of why the mighty wall of the norms finally let us in, but I do have my fan theories. I would put it down to fashion- namely hair (and not the hair of Chewbaka, we'll leave that for another time.) I barely give someone with pink hair a second look these days because really darling, it's mainstream. I know... the horror. Like bribing children to eat their vegetables, you norms saw the blinding light of blue hair and let us in. Bet you're kicking yourself now. We're here to stay.

Thus far, our mission has been successful, so I wouldn't be surprised if we see record breaking numbers at Comic Con again this month. But, for the record, here are a few things us geeks would like you to know. Cat ears? We did those first. The same with those awesome animal hats. And, for the record, I'm pretty sure we invented binge watching TV. But we have learnt to share. We all hope to see you later this month at Comic Con (dressed up as your favourite Pokémon) but don't be surprised that if the queues are too long... you will be to blame! Yes you. Personally, thank you for finally letting us infest your social media feeds and your shops. We are proud to say that we have finally proven the beautiful Gerard Way wrong.

By R. M-F



Yes- I am wearing a doily on my head.

GETTING TO KNOW: MS THOMSON



Kate Mercer and Sophie Brown venture down to Ms Thomson's room, with cups of tea and softly playing music to find out a few lesser known things about the Head teacher.

So, its coming up to the holidays, what's in your half term handbag?

I'm actually not really a hand bag person — I prefer those little free tote bags I can collect. In in my carrier bag I have: tissues, keys, hand cream, lip balm, a brolly (just in case) and my earphones — I can never leave without my earphones! I do have one posh bag that my dad bought me.

What's your AW16 essential?

My electric blanket, flannelette sheets, bed socks, nice shower products to make showering in the morning so much more bearable, candles upon candles — my favourites are the Diptyque candles and Christmas spice tea-lights, and of course good old radio four!

If you could be a fictional character, who would you be and why?

Pollyanna — because although she irritated me a lot, she always made sure people were happy and was a cup and a half full person, which is something I would like to be.

If your younger self could see you now: a mother, a wife and a Head teacher — what would she say about you?

Mum: Stop nagging! Remember what it was like at your age! And remember not to distance yourself from him.

Wife: You will find someone who will love you for who you are but you will be quite old!

Head teacher: You're having a laugh!

This is something we've heard you like to ask so...What's your favourite sandwich?

Oh, it would have to be wholemeal grain bread with homemade egg mayo, rocket, crispy, crispy, crispy bacon and juicy fat cherry tomatoes!

Who is your fashion icon and why?

Vivienne Westford — I have the deepest respect for her as a designer; she is always so

quirky, passionate and strong. Her designs are mad but so beautiful.

It's the season all things scary, what has you been your ultimate fashion or Halloween faux pas?

This is absolutely mortifying but in 1982 I dressed up in a red and white stripy ra-ra skirt with a matching blouse with puffer sleeves. Then I paired it with white tights, backcombed hair and red Cuban heeled boots — which I had begged my dad for and were one of my most treasured items! Nobody else had them in Torquay either!

What do you listen to? There are rumours of punk, alternate rock and dance!

(This is where Ms. T proceeds to give us a very privileged look in to her itunes account!)

I listen to pretty much anything but some of my favourites are:

- Bob Marley (I saw him live in Dublin!)
- Primal Scream
- Leonard Cohen
- Pink Floyd

Teachers hear everything; do you enjoy hearing the student gossip?

I don't pay attention to any student gossip really — I believe in the students having their private lives, what their business is theirs, not mine. I would rather the school is a sanctuary that prepares students for life than anything else and focus on that.

What's one quote that you would advise everybody to live by?

"Manners maketh a man." I believe that it is the one thing that's been deteriorating over these past generations; its sad that we have lost this basic way of spreading kindness. It's the one thing that is the most important to me and what I believe everyone should have no matter what.

Thank you!

NINETEEN YEARS LATER.... AND THE MAGIC NEVER DIES



Ever since JK Rowling welcomed us to the world of wizardry nineteen years ago, she has kept people of all ages enthralled with the magic in the world around us. But how has she kept the magic alive?

Let me start by saying that I am, without a doubt, a Potterhead.

Ever since I devoured the books and absorbed the films, the Harry Potter series has remained a constant in my life. It is crazy to think that the first book came out nearly twenty years ago. So, how has Rowling managed to keep everyone hooked in the wonderful world that brings magic to all that wish it?

People may wonder why it remains so loved, but frankly, I'm not surprised. Harry Potter has become a pillar of children's literature as well as a book that people will remember for the ages.

When the book was first published in 1997, people loved it; and when it was released as a film in 2001, people leapt at the chance of seeing their favourite boy wizard brought to life. When the magical stories and films came to a close in 2011 people couldn't help but wonder, "What

will happen next?" But it seems like Rowling had a couple of spells up her sleeve and never let Harry leave our minds.

As time progressed, the Queen of Literature continued to give us snippets of the wizarding world through different platforms (not quite 9¾ but close enough), hinting at possible films and plays. She kept the magic alive in our minds and ignited our imaginations every time she drew us in with her words and gave us the ability to find out more about ourselves.

In answer to the question? Yes. It is enough.

It is now October 2016 and many things have happened that will keep us perpetually on our toes. From the discovery of an American Hogwarts (kind of) and the ability to find our Patronus; to the release of Harry Potter and the Cursed Child Rowling has once more managed to capture everyone's attention. We are close to the film release of Fantastic Beasts and if it is one thing I know for certain is that the magic of the wizarding world shall never fade. I thank Rowling for her wondrous creation that continues to give me and many others joy.



PHILOSOPHICAL RAMBLINGS WITH DR E. MURRAY:

MORAL DEVELOPMENT

Philosophical Quote:

"Right action tends to be defined in terms of general individual rights and standards that have been critically examined and agreed upon by the whole society." - Lawrence Kohlberg

Lawrence Kohlberg was a psychologist that considered philosophical questions, such as 'how does our conscience develop?'. Many, such as Aquinas, would answer this question by using God-given reason, essentially stating that if we think about something enough we will know what the right thing to do is. But Kohlberg didn't like this, so he came up with his own theory.

Kohlberg believed that conscience and morality is developed throughout life, and that they are developed through six stages, which are split up into a further three stages. I suppose it is a little like Shakespeare's stages of man.

Pre-conventional morality includes stages:

Obedience and Punishment – the individual does good to avoid punishment.

Individualism and Exchange – the individual realises different people have different viewpoints.

This type of morality is generally accepted by nine year olds and younger. It is mostly shaped by the expectations of adults and the consequences of following or breaking rules.

Conventional morality includes stages:

Good Interpersonal Relationships – the individual is good in order to be seen as a good person by others.

Maintaining the Social Order – the individual obeys rules to keep a stable society.

This type of morality is accepted by most adults, and is when we begin to internalise morals but not question them.

Post-conventional morality includes stages:

Social Contract and Individual Rights – the individual realises that the laws put in by society are not always best for certain situations (e.g. euthanasia).

Universal Principles – the individual develops their own moral code that may or may not fit in with society's laws.

Kohlberg believed only a small percentage of people

would be capable of achieving this level of morality. This is the highest level of morality and involves an individual choosing their own principles to live by.

These stages derived from an experiment where they had to deal with a series of situations, and judged their reasons for the decisions they came to. This is one of the scenarios:

Heinz's wife was dying from a particular type of cancer. Doctors said a new drug might save her. The drug had been discovered by a local chemist and the Heinz tried desperately to buy some, but the chemist was charging ten times the money it cost to make the drug and this was much more than the Heinz could afford.

Heinz could only raise half the money, even after help from family and friends. He explained to the chemist that his wife was dying and asked if he could have the drug cheaper or pay the rest of the money later.

The chemist refused, saying that he had discovered the drug and was going to make money from it. The husband was desperate to save his wife, so later that night he broke into the chemist's and stole the drug.

Kohlberg then asked questions like: should Heinz have stolen the drug? Would it change anything if Heinz did not love his wife? What if the person dying was a stranger, would it make any difference? Should the police arrest the chemist for murder if the woman died?

The answers the participants came to reflected what type of morality each of them possessed. Those who believe Heinz did something wrong are considered to be in stages one and two; those who believe Heinz was right to steal the drug but should go to prison are considered to be in stages three and four; and those who believe Heinz was right to steal the drug but shouldn't go to prison are considered to be in stages five and six.

So, what do you think should happen to Heinz? Sadly, this isn't an answers on the back of a postcard forum, rather a time for you to think about what's right, what you would do and what that says about who you are.

POKEMON GONE



Lucario Lover explores why people really want to catch them all.

Since the summer we have all been subjected to the new mobile game craze, 'Pokémon Go'. A game where "you've gotta catch them all", or you have to hatch Pokémon in order to challenge tough gyms in your area so your team can rule dominant.

For me, Pokémon Go seemed to hit hard as everyone I knew was showing off the new Pokémon they had caught; even people had no prior knowledge of Pokémon seemed to be capturing the weird and wonderful creatures. It was a big hit... for a moment... for a while. Now it seems that Pokémon Go is steadily in decline. During August less and less people have been playing Pokémon Go, a trend that has carried on moving into October, and with good reason.

I believe the reason for this decrease in activity is due to the fact that as a game, it's not actually that good, or at least, not what we were promised from the promotional material. If you look on the trailers for Pokémon Go, they mention how you can battle and trade with the Pokémon you have caught, and if you're an avid Pokémon fan like me, you'll know that battling and trading are some of the key aspects of the Pokémon franchise. Just collecting Pokémon, then trying to evolve them with an irritating grind of capturing more of the same Pokémon becomes tedious, making you wonder what the point of it all was. On top of

that, the inconsistency of the servers; the battery life it takes from your phone; and (at least on my phone) the game shutting down after twenty minutes of 'gameplay', makes it feel like you're just fighting against the machine.

Of course there must be reasons why Pokémon Go was popular in the first place. You could say that it was because it's Pokémon in real life, which is something Pokémon fans had always wanted. It ignited the passion that both retired and continuing Pokémon fans share. If only the game was actually what we were expecting.

Really, I don't hate Pokémon Go – far from it – yes, it's a bad game with bad mechanics that do not live up to expectations, but it did do something that I haven't seen in a long time. It brought people's love of Pokémon out of hiding; brought awareness to those who didn't know about Pokémon; got gamers out of the house; and gave people the chance to find friends with similar interests. So Pokémon Go may be terrible, but what it's done to help the entire franchise is amazing; and as a dedicated fan to the main series games I love it. Now with Pokémon Sun and Moon around the corner, it really is "time to catch them all!"

ANTHONY JOSHUA:

THE RISE TO SUCCESS

Sammy Parkers looks at how Anthony Joshua, or AJ as he's now become known, has climbed the ranks of worldwide boxing in the last 4 years.

Back in 2012 when AJ won the Olympic gold medal in London, many people doubted whether he could turn pro. Joshua has proved them wrong. Since turning pro in 2013, Joshua has set the heavyweight division alight. 17 wins and 17 knock outs gives him one of the best records in world boxing today. But how did it all start for the champ? Was the local lad always set for success in the ring?

Born in Watford on the 15th October 1989, Joshua moved to Nigeria before returning to Garston when he was 11. Joshua excelled in sports such as football and athletics, but didn't begin to box until he turned 18. He began boxing at Finchley ABC in Barnet, which coincidentally is also home to Dereck Chisora. In 2009, Joshua won the Haringey Boxing Cup. He went on to retain it the following year. After only his 18th amateur bout, Joshua had the opportunity to turn pro with a hefty pay out of £50,000. Unsurprisingly, AJ declined the offer and it he claimed "Turning down that £50,000 was easy. I didn't take up the sport for money, I want to win medals." Certainly his desire for sporting greatness is something that seemed to inspire him to train harder, be fitter and get stronger.

AJ's hunger and desire to succeed paid off as he came second in the world amateur championships in Baku Azerbaijan, an improvement from the disappointing performance at the European Amateur Boxing Championships earlier that year. Joshua's success paid off as he was selected for team GB at the London Olympics in early 2012; at these Olympics, it really did seem as though the local boy could do no wrong.

Gold in London meant Joshua had to now turn pro to further improve his already impressive boxing career. So he did. Joshua took the heavyweight category by storm. No boxer could last more than a couple of rounds with Joshua. His record continues to amaze all boxing fans, especially his 100% knockout rate.

On the 9th of April 2016 Joshua went on to make history by defeating Charles Martin. Not only did he win the IBF Heavyweight title, but he also became the first person to hold both Olympic gold and a world championship at the same time.

So, where next for AJ? With big claims on him fighting the likes of David Haye, Wladimir Klitschko and maybe even Tyson Fury, Joshua has a real opportunity to make a legacy in the world of boxing. With machine-like power, electric speed and fancy footwork, Joshua has the potential to make it to the top. Whether he capitalises on his potential will be a different story, but the grit and determination shown by Joshua already suggests he will go the full way in his already mesmerising boxing career. And we can say, hand on heart, that he is a local lad, and we'll be watching in admiration.



THE ENGLAND MANAGER: *A CURSED JOB?*

Sports reporter, Sam Parker, explores the fated England managerial role.

Sam Allardyce is the latest casualty in a long line of England managers; he, like so many of his predecessors have fallen short of legendary status. It begs the question: is the tenure of an England manager a fatal one?

After huge allegation claims made by The Daily Telegraph, Sam Allardyce resigned from his post after just one game; and Roy Hodgson being sacked after a dismal performance at the 2016 European Championships. Is it inevitable that every England manager will fail to achieve the glory that football fans so desperately crave?

With Gareth Southgate taking interim charge, it will be interesting to see how the FA and the terraces treat him. Will he be given a chance to show what he can do with an already struggling team? Or will he to become a scapegoat and the focus of blame, like Roy Hodgson before him?

The FA have stated that Southgate will definitely be in charge of the England squad in next month's friendly with Spain; consequently, he'll get a huge opportunity to turn around the fortunes of this struggling side and prove that he's not only to be celebrated as a fantastic player, but actually, he has the ability to lead the England team to victory.

Ever since Sir Alf Ramsey famously led England to World Cup victory in 1966, the pressure has mounted on all managers to replicate the same success. Therefore, the pressure on every single England manager has been immense. If England don't win a game, it seems the press and the fans jump on the manager's and players' backs. Consequently, you can see the fear

in the eyes of the players as they step out onto the pitch, meanwhile the manager – quite frankly – seems too intimidated to try something different because he knows he will get crucified if it goes wrong.

However, will Southgate be different? The early signs suggests he could be. Controversially dropping captain Wayne Rooney for England's most recent World Cup qualifier against Slovenia hints that Southgate is prepared to break with tradition, to defy expectation and to try tactics that might only have been used in FIFA 16! Sadly, the outcome was somewhat disappointing with a 0-0 draw; nevertheless, Southgate's bold call suggests he could be different to his predecessors and take a risk. This could possibly be what England fans want to see to get behind a manager.

England have been creating talented players for decades; players who become iconic. They just haven't had the manager who can bring these players together and show a unified three lions team. Both the FA and the fans need to get behind the England gaffer no matter what decision they make. If we supported the team and made them play without being scared, maybe we could one day win a trophy. But as regards to the England manager job being cursed, I don't think so. It will just take time before everyone realises they can't succeed without making a few drastic changes and upsetting a few of the old sets of rules.



THE DEFINITE ARTICLE



If you had to be a hero or villain which would it be and why?

Professor Snape. He's made out to be a villain but really he's a hero.

Miaow or woof? Why?

Definitely woof. Because of my dog Lola, and because of how excited dogs get when you walk through the door.

What is your most prized possession?

My Netflix password, locked safely away in my vault.

We all have one, so what is your regret?

Giving up guitar lessons when I was younger. Can always start learning again, though!

Who is your favourite celebrity and why?

Alex Turner from the Arctic Monkeys. Listening to his music and lyrics makes me want to write songs.

What subject did you find most challenging

when you were at school?

Food Tech. I enjoy cooking now but I would have struggled making toast whilst I was at school.

Triumphing can be tricky, what are you proudest of?

After a few tries, finishing the first draft of the book that I'm writing.

Sweet or savoury? What's your nibble of choice?

Probably chocolate fudge cake, or chocolate brownie, chocolate cookie... you get the idea!

If you weren't inspiring the minds of Secondary students what would you be in another life and why?

Maybe a zoologist or marine biologist. Something inspired by all of the 'Planet Earth' and David Attenborough programmes that I like to watch.

To glamp, to camp, to hotel or to villa? Why?

Villa, by the beach on an island in the sun.

A smile a day by P.K

M - Memorable

E - Encouraged

R - Respected

L - A Light for others

I - Intelligent

N - Neighbourly

W - Welcoming

I - Important

L - Lucky

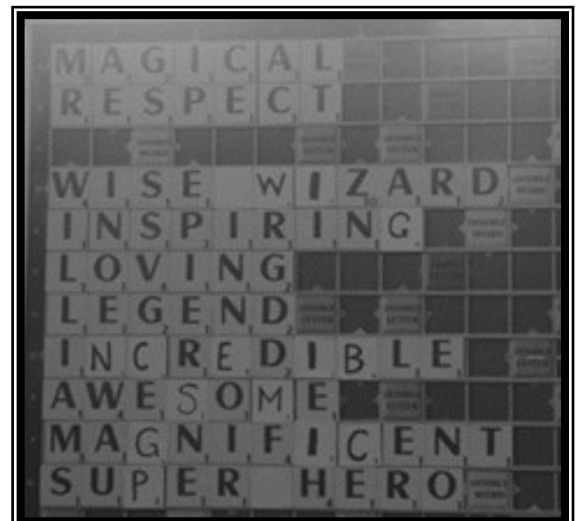
L - Lionhearted

I - Inspirational

A - Admirable

M - Motivational

S - A Smile that never leaves



A Smile A Day

By PK

Following the tragic news that Mr Williams had past away, Ms Thomson allowed students the opportunity to share their memories, their thoughts and their sadness. Some of our writers took the liberty of gathering some of the school's tributes, as we say a special thank you to the wonderful, the magical and the marvellous Mr Williams.

Memories that you gave will forever stay in our minds; as we look back at them we'll smile.

The encouragement to both students and members of staff kept us working hard and will continue to do so.

A man that gave and earned respect not just from his students but everyone around him.

Merlin Williams was that light that shone even in the darkness; he'll always remain the light of the school's heart.

Welcoming, each and every person that came cross his path with his "hello's" and "good morning's", and forever regarded as an important member within this community.

We were lucky and privileged to have known a wonderful man.

We all know that a mediocre teacher tells, that a good teacher explains, and a superior teacher demonstrates; however, Mr Williams was more than all that, he was an incredible teacher that inspired.

A smile a day, took the pain away.

Thank you for the smiles: the smiles that no one will ever forget.

Thank you for having taught us all we know.

Unfortunately there is no more that you can teach.

You were the candle whose light had travelled far; we are now the candles that hold to the light,

It is now our responsibility as the Marlborough family to always light the path for others.

- The Marlborough Family