

BCSP ^{the} Press

for students, by students

Issue 13 | Feb 2024 Half Term | Editor: Haydn Smith



Taken by: Olivia Bell - Year 7

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Help us protect our environment. Recycle this paper, make it something new!

Lord Of The Flies

By Finlay Jones – Y9

On the 31st of January and the 1st of February, BCS's The Drama Thing put on a production of Lord of the Flies for the public. It was a fantastic performance with a packed audience both nights. The acting was incredible and very professional with many exciting moments! It couldn't however have been possible without the slick and refined Tech and Backstage teams. Everyone who came agreed that the show was amazing and wanted to see more – so keep a look out for future productions!



The Counselling Service

The school offers a school time counselling service to all students. It is provided by our counsellor, Debra. It gives you a chance to talk or open up about what bothers you with someone who is not connected with family, friends or school.

She won't tell you what to do but will help you make your own decisions. Sometimes it is good to be able to talk to someone, you may feel anxious and down but not know why. Even if you're not sure whether counselling can help, come and try anyway!

Whatever you discuss with Debra is confidential, unless she believes that you or someone else is being or is at risk of being harmed.

Y7s also have the advantage of Wellbeing Champions being assigned to their form, if you are Y7 you can request help from them with anything from locker keys to getting lost. They wear Yellow and Blue ties.

To book an appointment or change an appointment, email Debra at:

ehelp@buxton.derbyshire.sch.uk

(this can only be used during term time)

Or go and see her in B6

Warm Up with A Book

By: Haydn Smith & Bentley Rose-Jones – Y11 & Y7

In the centre of our school lies a sign-up only book oasis called The Hub, where during the winter you can sign-up and warm up with their hundreds of books. From classics to modern fiction and even the King John Bible! With a cozy atmosphere and a staff of dedicated student librarians come in, have a seat on the best chairs in the school and Warm Up with a Book.



Largan's Coughing

By: Haydn Smith – Y11

On Friday (09/02/24) our Local MP Robert Largan was meant to be coming to school to talk with SLT and students, but at the 11th hour during Period 1, a representative phoned to say he had been “coughing all morning” and was unable to attend, with rumours he was questioning the weather the day prior. This is the second time that he has unfortunately let down local school kids, with him being unable to attend the Buxton Climate Conference due to him being busy on “Parliamentary Business” in London, conveniently after students in Sixth Form scared off local councillors expecting younger school students with pre-prepared questions. So overall, students across the school were unfortunately disappointed by the fact that Largan was Coughing.

An Interview With...

By: Luke Adkins – Y10

Q&A with Mr Smith (Physics Teacher & DoP-Boys)

What made you go into teaching?

“I remember being in my final year of university wondering what to do with my life, and many of my close friends and course mates were applying for these well-paid graduate roles working for big firms in the city, and whilst I was pleased for them, it had no appeal to me. I wanted to do something that felt a bit more rewarding. My parents were both teachers, and whilst they never actively encouraged me to pursue the same career, I could see the reward they got from working with young people, and that all seemed to make sense to me the more I considered it.”

What jobs did you have before you became a teacher?

“The summer before my 15th birthday I got a job washing up at The Old Hall Hotel, then later progressed to waiting on and bar work. I genuinely think working there was the making of me and I wouldn't be the teacher I am if I hadn't got that job. It's there I learned to deal with people, engage with people, work alongside people, (including difficult chefs!), be accountable and work hard. It's the best thing I ever did, and I'll always be grateful for that first job.”

When did you join the staff here?

“January 2013 – it was my second term as a qualified teacher.”

What do you enjoy about being a teacher?

“The variety, the interactions and that feeling of making a positive difference, however small, to young people's lives. It's an absolute privilege, genuinely.”

Is there anything that you dislike about teaching?

“When you work in the public sector, it's easy to look at your friends in private sector getting paid better, and at times have your head turned. There have been times where I've considered, for small moments, leaving teaching for that reason, but I don't think anything in the private sector that could remotely emulate the rewards of working in education. Money isn't everything, although saying that, I'd love to see schools getting better funding, so we can improve our resources and facilities further, because ultimately that would benefit the students.”

Are there any movements in school that you are particularly interested in?

“I love any opportunity to empower students to develop opinions and have a voice. School council, the house system, that sort of thing. There is so much talent and so many ideas in our students to unlock. I love that all students can belong somewhere in this school, be it through sport, arts or dungeons and dragons. I'm so excited for my own children to get to this school in 2 or 3 years – there are so many opportunities for them to get involved in.”

Continue Reading On The Next Page...

What were your favourite subjects when you were at school?

“There were subjects I was good at, and subjects I loved. They weren’t always the same thing. I was naturally an able mathematician and obviously quite good at science. I don’t like to have regrets, because every decision I’ve made has got me to where I am now, but I loved drama at KS3, and I love film and media – I often wonder what might have happened if I pursued these subjects. I loved being involved in school productions and it’s always so special watching students enjoy being in the great productions BCS puts on still.”

Where did you go to university?

University of Sheffield

What did you do at university?

Electronic Engineering

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

I went through all sorts of ideas I think, but quite conventional careers. Law, Medicine etc. I think I was just saying stuff that sounded ambitious. I think our careers advice now is so much better than it was back then. Truth is, I had no idea. I knew I was quite good at school, and I should probably make the best of that, but that’s about it.

What are your hobbies/interests outside of school?

I play the guitar a bit, and me and my old band have recently begun rehearsing again for the first time in years, which has been really nice. I started a podcast with my best friend during lockdown which did pretty well – we’re on hiatus at the moment whilst we focus on the music but we might get back to it at some point. I’ve recently started swimming regularly to look after myself a bit, which I’m enjoying. My kids love theme parks - me and my son love rollercoasters and we can’t wait for Nemesis to reopen at Alton Towers.

What is your official role at school?

I’m Director of Progress for Boys.

What does that job entail?

It’s quite different to our old Director of Progress roles. I get to work strategically with the other DoPs to improve outcomes across the school. The role is developing rather organically, but so far, amongst other stuff, I’ve been setting up some intervention and mentoring for groups of boys as well as working with colleagues to plan some great parent engagement events. I’m doing lots of data crunching behind the scenes at the moment, which will hopefully help us work out the areas boys do best at in school, and help other staff learn how to get the best outcomes for boys. It’s really interesting – it’ll be a longer process but hopefully we’ll see some great results down the line.

Apple Vision Pro

By Luke Adkins – Y10

Apple released the Apple Vision Pro on the Second Of February. However, The Vision Pro was made available to selected journalists in mid-January. the initial Impressions, I'm impressed. I've been advocating iris-based authentication for 4 years. With 1 4K micro-OLED display for each eye. Journalists Have Reported. However, there has been limited software support for the Vision Pro, There has been no official support for Netflix or YouTube. This is possibly due to the limited customer base and not much revenue possibility. The weight and battery life have also been issues. However, these issues are not apple exclusive. Almost all VR headsets experience these issues.

Samsung S24; Titanium Deja Vu

By Luke Adkins – Y10

Samsung Released their S24 line of phones just 2 weeks before the release of the Apple Vision Pro. Great timing Samsung! Similar pricing to iPhone on pro and standard models. Apple, however, is £100 cheaper when it comes to the plus model. Not that that price matters since the plus model is just used as a ladder to the higher end, pro models. Galaxy AI is a new hit. Or it will be until it is moved onto a paid subscription service in 2025. This takes most of the new software features that were introduced as s24 exclusive yet are cloud-based AI features (They can be used on any phone).

Ghey was Listening

By: Haydn Smith – Y11

The transphobic comments by Rishi Sunak in the House of Commons have landed him in boiling waters.

"...from someone who has broken every single promise he was elected on. I have counted almost 30 in the last year: pensions, planning, peerages, public sector pay, tuition fees, childcare, second referendums, **defining a woman**—although, in fairness, that was only 99% of a U-turn." – Rishi Sunak, The Prime Minister. Prime Minister's Questions 07/02/2024

That was what Rishi Sunak said to the House of Commons and the Nation during Prime Minister's Questions last week. A comment that has caused outrage throughout politics and the media.

Not even 2 minutes before, Keir Starmer, the Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Labour Party, said this, "...Brianna Ghey's mother, Esther, has touched us all. As a father, I cannot even imagine the pain that she is going through. **I am glad that she is with us in the Gallery today.**"

Rishi Sunak took aim at Labour's U-turn in July 2023 over deciding against introducing self-ID for trans people (transgender people can change their gender without seeking a medical diagnosis, like a Deed Poll name change. This arguably removes transgender being considered as a medical condition.) and instead "streamline" the medical diagnosis route to "uphold confidence in the system."

What Rishi either forgot in under two minutes or decided to ignore was that Esther Ghey, mother of Brianna Ghey (the trans teen murdered in Warrington, Cheshire in 2023), was sitting in the public viewing gallery above the Commons listening to it all. This displays the attitude of many (but importantly not all) Conservative MPs, blatantly disregarding the basic expected rights of trans people, to be respected. Instead, they are being weaponized like a political football as MPs attempt to score political points to further their careers.

To top it off, the Prime Minister has repeatedly attempted to gloss over it, facing calls to apologize by many MPs across the house, even his own frontbenches. Rishi said, "I think that is an absolutely legitimate thing to point out... If you look at what I said, I was very clear, talking about Keir Starmer's proven track record of U-turns on major policies because he doesn't have a plan." Instead of apologizing, he still attempts to demonize Labour's changing policies when his own party's website still does not have a clear plan for after the election, in a year where the other political parties are scrambling to put together manifestos and campaigns for an election only No.10 knows the date of.

People ask why we have an LGBT+ History Month? This is why. The education of people in LGBT+ issues is massively important, to prevent comments like this from the highest offices, to allow people to have some decency, and allow LGBT+ people to live free of discrimination by claiming the past, showing that LGBT+ people existed even when governments of the past tried to erase them, and being able to create a future where there is tolerance and acceptance.

An Interview With...

By Finlay Jones – Y9

Q&A With Miss Priest (Music Teacher)

Did you always want to be a teacher?

Growing up I wanted to be a backing singer for a famous singer or a customs officer! It was only when I was at university that I decided to become a teacher.

Why did you choose music?

I always did a lot of music outside of school as I was in orchestras – I played the Oboe and the Piano.

What's your favourite style of music?

I like lots of styles as they fit the moods, but I don't have a favourite

Have you always taught secondary?

Yes, I've never really liked the thought of primary!

What's your favourite part of teaching?

I love seeing when someone suddenly gets it and can finally do what they were struggling to do before.

Why do you feel Music is important?

Music teaches you about teamwork and feeling a sense of self achievement.

What do you do in your spare time?

Where I live is quite out in the countryside, so I do a lot of walking, I started in Lockdown and have tried to keep it up ever since.

What is your favourite area of music to teach?

I really like teaching drumming and doing drumming circles with classes because it's very fun and interactive.

What's your favourite food?

I enjoy cooking and like to make Lasagnas at home.

If you couldn't be a music Teacher, what would you be?

A backing singer although who to; I'm not sure

Who is your favourite musician?

I haven't got one because I like to listen to all kinds of music and genres

Favourite part of Music?

I love to sing especially with others and in a choir – harmonising as a group is a really nice thing to do.

The World Watches

The World Watches as we navigate a year of elections, rising tensions and global challenges.

By: Haydn Smith – Y11

This year, 60% of the world or half the world's population will vote in mainly country-wide elections. This includes key international nations like the United States, United Kingdom, and Russia (Putin will be re-elected... not much to say there).

The most influential place is the United States, with the Race to the White House back on again, looking like Trump vs Biden. However, the parties' selection processes have only just begun, so it's all to play for, but they are favourites to win.

A Red (Trump) White House could see the United States backtrack on a lot of work that the Democrats have done, backtracking Trump's policies from 2016-2020 (yes, it's a lot of backtracking). More worrying is Trump's position on global conflicts. He and a few other Republicans believe that US support to Ukraine should end and suppressing Russia should not be a priority for the US. If this happens, Ukraine could be at even more risk of falling to Russian aggression, escalating tensions across Europe, especially if Putin decides to invade more former Soviet countries. Trump has mixed messages on the war in Israel, saying he supports Israel and should go tough on Iran, but also criticizing Israel and praising Hezbollah (an organization designated as a terrorist organization by the United States).

We are also heading to the polls on this little island of ours with Rishi vs Starmer in probably the most anticipated election in years. We have had 14 years of Conservative government and 4 Prime Ministers; it's safe to say the cracks are starting to show. The most recent predictions at the time of writing show the Tories falling from 376 seats to 126 seats (yikes!) with Labour climbing from 197 seats to a whopping 453 seats. The biggest Labour majority since Tony Blair's win of 418 seats in 1997. Labour will focus on 5 "Missions" from "Getting Britain Building Again," supporting the NHS, introducing state-owned green energy, hiring 13,000 more Constables and PCSOs (do they have a magic police officer tree?), also hiring 6,500 more school staff (there must be a magic public sector worker tree).

With the Tories all over the place, with 56 of their MPs not wanting to stand again at the election and their website only focusing on their "Achievements," not their plans (great election planning Rishi). MPs standing down include key Tory figures like Graham Brady (the guy who leads the non-government MPs), Dominic Raab (Deputy PM of Boris), Sajid Javid (has held multiple high-level positions since 2010, notably Health Secretary after Matt Hancock was caught snogging that woman in the side room).

This year is set to be interesting, with changing governments come changing policies, changing relationships, and support. So, it's safe to say, **the World is Watching.**

Chinese New Year

By: Fay Ranczuch

Chinese New Year is the festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar, In China the festival is commonly referred to as the Spring Festival as the spring season in the Lunisolar Calendar traditionally starts on the 24th Solar terms which the festival celebrates around the time of the Chinese New Year. In China they celebrate the new year for 2 weeks just depending on the calendar.

Traditional Foods

A reunion dinner is held on New Year's Eve during which family members gather for a celebration. The New Year's dinner is very large and sumptuous and traditionally includes dishes of meat like: Pork, Chicken and Fish. Most reunion dinners also feature a communal hot pot as it is believed to signify the coming together of the family members for the meal.

Foods mostly eaten/Buddha's delight.

Chicken = 鸡

Apples = 苹果

Fish = 鱼

Garlic = 蒜

Dumplings = 饺子

Melon seeds = 西瓜子

Noodles = 面条

Sweets = 米唐果

Sunflower seeds = 瓜子

Red Envelopes

The most traditional thing they give out Red Envelopes with money inside, setting fireworks at night wearing red as a symbol to say that's a new year (or wearing red is also a symbol for getting married for pictures as well). They also give out red envelopes if it's: The New Year, getting married, birthdays. However not funerals.

The Dangers Of Walking To School With Headphones In

By Poppy Mellor & Erin Chipp – Y7

While it may seem fun and very tempting to listen to your favourite artist on the way to school and out and about, there are some dangers:

Focus:

When wearing headphones, your focus is divided by your surroundings and what you choose to listen to. Having a divided focus will impair your judgement and your coordination. It can worsen your decision-making skills, therefore making you not think to look before crossing the road.

Listening:

Don't assume that drivers can see you. They may think you know they are approaching when you don't. This may result in you being hit by the vehicle.

Kidnapping:

Whilst listening to headphones, you won't be able to hear someone sneak up behind you. They could easily snatch you and you wouldn't realize they were there.

Alternatives:

If you really want to listen to music on your headphones out and about, we recommend you either listen on low volume or only have one earbud in.

By: Heath Koontz-Garboden - Y7

Illustrated and written by Heath.

ep 3



Pom Pom Police

Next episode

I hope you've been enjoying Pom Pom Police if you like it please keep reading

last time

hey this isn't a shop you know like meh I'm leaving
hope you don't mind if I take the loot

Valentine day is coming soon
I am? I have a day?

No not you valentine!
we need to protect the couples from the Rober Poms

They might be giving each other chocolates the rober Poms might want to steal them
we need to stop that.

Rober Poms
we need to steal all the chocolates
yeah

Valentine day is now
we are all on garde
no one will steal

let's do this!
Hut!
(!!!)

Pom Pom Rober 3 do you copy?
I copy

Pom Pom 2 are you in?
in!

Mission impossible

get those chocos!

go!

steal steal

later
succes!
look at this bounty

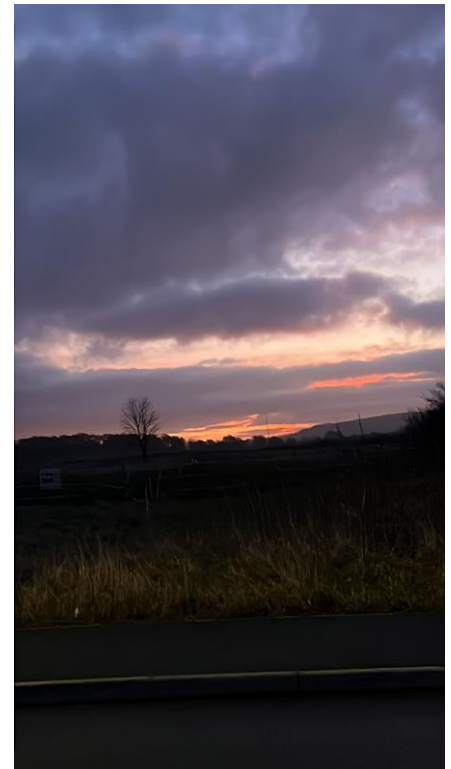
come on
bounty?
bounty bar

go get em
oh no Pom Pom Police!
Run!

mm choco
See ya next time in episode 4 our

Photos

By Olivia Bell – Y7



Puzzles

Sudoku

9								
	3						2	
		5	2	1	8			
5	8	6		3		9		
					1	7		
			9			3		
	6	3			9	8		
1		9			6		5	
	5				2			9

School Related Anagrams:

- 1) Clohos
- 2) Alsocorms
- 3) Oboetonk
- 4) Clipen
- 5) Audiecont
- 6) Amexs
- 7) Curlicumu
- 8) Cupmetro
- 9) Adergs
- 10) Saslsec

**The Answers Will Be Revealed
In The Next Edition..**

Word Search

E	P	E	N	C	I	L	S	C	H	O	O	L	V
A	E	Q	O	C	J	X	D	N	Z	T	J	N	Y
E	Q	D	E	R	J	T	T	H	Q	Z	T	O	M
L	G	C	U	T	L	W	N	D	M	H	R	T	H
L	C	R	O	C	O	V	L	V	K	E	V	E	P
N	C	L	A	M	A	O	U	Y	J	G	L	B	H
B	D	L	A	D	P	T	D	G	X	H	T	O	D
I	D	R	A	S	E	U	I	C	U	J	N	O	Z
U	V	V	A	S	S	S	T	O	E	E	Q	K	B
X	U	W	E	Q	S	R	A	E	N	X	K	Y	B
U	V	C	S	Z	R	E	O	M	R	G	A	T	C
K	Z	K	Y	T	T	N	S	O	B	I	K	M	E
C	U	R	R	I	C	U	L	U	M	M	Z	R	S
L	W	C	C	Q	D	Q	O	C	W	Q	E	S	O

- 1) School
- 2) Classroom
- 3) Notebook
- 4) Pencil
- 5) Education

- 6) Exams
- 7) Curriculum
- 8) Computer
- 9) Grades
- 10) Classes

Our Team

The team that have created this edition are as follows:

- Haydn Smith (Y11)** – Editor, Writer, Digital Design/Formatter, Logo Digitisation
- Luke Adkins (Y10)** - Deputy Editor, Writer, Digital Design/Formatter
- Finlay Jones (Y9)** – Writer
- Max Sherwood (Y9)** – Original Logo Sketch/Concept
- Nicole Hu (Y8)** – Contributor
- Fay Ranczuch (Y8)** – Writer
- Olivia Bell (Y7)** - Photographer
- Erin Chipp (Y7)** – Writer
- Chloe Hu (Y7)** – Contributor
- Willow Jones (Y7)** – Writer
- Heath Koontz-Garboden (Y7)** - Illustrator
- Poppy Mellor (Y7)** – Writer
- Evelyn Needham (Y7)** – Contributor
- Bentley Rose-Jones (Y7)** – Writer
- Evelyn Throssel (Y7)** - Writer

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theBCSPress team are always looking for new people to join, we are looking for anybody who would want to write about any issues or events that could be happening in the school or for young people in general.

You could join us as a regular writer, adding content to all our editions, or you could join us on a freelance basis. Writing in just one or a few of our editions.

If you would like to come along to our meetings we meet:
In D29 at 12:30 on a Thursday Lunchtime

HELP ADD TO OUR NEWSPAPER

If you want to help with our newspaper
come to our meetings:

Every Thursday at 12:30 in D29