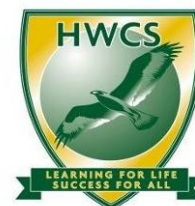


THE RAPTOR



HARROW WAY'S NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS

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PIZZA, PASTA AND POMPEII

The geography department's second trip to the bay of Naples, Italy had a bumpy start when we left the school grounds at 2:45 am and headed up to Gatwick airport. The diversions on the motorway and problems with baggage were the least of our worries with a two hour coach journey to the airport, a three hour flight and a two hour coach journey to the hotel. We explored a local town and an impromptu three course meal for tea before we all headed to bed.

Day 2 had even more calamities with a very steep hike up Mount Vesuvius with sickness, sore feet and selfies. With most people's appetites full with McDonalds we left the modern Pompeii and into the Pompeii that was destroyed by Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. The city is still being excavated and there are still parts of the beautiful city that was mostly destroyed. Once covered underneath 9ft of ash, we saw plaster reincarnations of families that died.

The island of Capri was our stop for day 3 and the only way to get to it is by boat. It was a very amusing spectacle for all of us. We then boarded the boat and set out for our day in the quiet side of Capri, to see the sights from the heights. We explored the island from its highest points. The beautiful scenery was almost as amazing as the food.

We had a lot fewer steps today before a self-guided tour of the Flavian amphitheatre in Pozzuli where gladiators fought against peasants, other gladiators and animals. We saw where the animals would have been lifted, secretly, into the arena using slaves and an early crane mechanism. Afterwards, we had a short coach ride to Solfatara where we all became very hot from the active volcano's sulphur dioxide. The best way to describe it is very strong rotting egg that is very warm (150 -160° C) in gas form, staining the rock green.

Once we arrived back in the UK we are all relieved. Even though we had an amazing time we were ready to go home and see our families. On behalf of everyone who went on the trip I would like to thank: all of our tour guides, the coach drivers, the hotel staff

and most importantly: Mr Cole, Miss Brown and Miss Campbell for organising and running this trip. We have all had an amazing time and had so much fun. Thank you for this amazing geographical experience.

By Katie Scratchley



IMPORTANT DATES

10th & 11th March—Year 11 French Speaking Exams
11th & 14th March—Year 11 Art Exams
16th-18th March—Grease Performances
w/c 21st March—Year 10 Mocks Begin
21st March—English Mocks, Year 11 P1/2 and Year 10 P3/4
24th March—End of Spring Term
11th April—Start of Summer Term

HOUSE POINTS

BUZZARDS - 995

HAWKS - 895

KESTRELS - 1190

THE ATTENDANCE CUP

BUZZARDS - 94.33%

HAWKS - 93.17%

KESTRELS - 95.41%

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THE DEAD

After my unprecedented 10/10 score for Lockwood and Co in the last edition of The Raptor, I thought I would share with you another book on my "you really MUST read this" list. The Dead by the comedian Charlie Higson (yes, him from The Fast Show) is that very book.

A terrible disease has struck everyone over the age of sixteen, leaving them either dead or a decomposing, flesh-eating zombie. It started with an internet YouTube video, appropriately named "Scared Kid," featuring a terrified child rambling about 'mothers and fathers on a murderous rampage'. Hilarious? Unsettling? Scared Kid rapidly becomes an internet sensation, thanks to its realistic documentary, Blair Witch/Paranormal Activity style. Can a ten year old be that good an actor in an internet prank? A global audience are captivated. But then the internet stops working, and it becomes clear that Scared Kid is no actor.

The Dead follows a group of children from an English private boarding school as they band together, making their way to the countryside to start a new life after their teachers have all become said flesh eating zombies, who are only satisfied by eating the flesh of the children they teach. They begin their journey by bus, with an adult named Greg. Unfortunately, Greg soon shows the outer blisters and the inner madness of the flesh eating monsters the children are trying to escape from.

With a hoard of sickos standing between them and salvation, best friends Jack and Ed must fight to survive – even if it means facing their fears, becoming merciless, and losing what little innocence and humanity they have left. While the action and body count increases, and the violence and gore dial is cranked up, we hope Ed and Jack can triumph over an adversity like they have never known before. The relationship between these two in a time of impossible danger is fraught with tension, leading to moments of tenderness...and inevitable bloodthirsty tragedy.

If it's good old fashioned zombie apocalypse decapitation, flesh-eating, and blood spattering you're looking for, The Dead totally fits the bill. While The Dead is part of a series, it can be read as a novel on its own. However, like the flesh eating zombies, I can guarantee you will be back for seconds. Possibly even thirds.

By Alfie Smith

FIFA 16

FIFA 16 is a football game where you can play as your favourite team against a rival team, play as a manager and manage your own team, or as a player for various clubs.

Career Mode

In career mode you can be a manager and look after your favourite team, buying and selling players, or you can play as a player where you can play for various clubs in your career and go on to be a manager in later life. Also, in a player career mode you can even go on to be as good as Messi or Ronaldo!

Matches

In a match, you can play as your favourite team and use the players in that team to make your ultimate squad and play against a team of your choice!

Ultimate Team

Now, one thing I didn't mention in the introduction was Ultimate Team. In Ultimate team, you kind of do the same thing as you do in manager career. You start off with random players and buy better ones to create your "Ultimate Team".

FIFA 16 has been rated 5 stars by its players.

By George Chivers

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Deputy Editor: Jacob Percival

Contributors: George Chivers, Katie Scratchley, Alfie Smith, Jack Tugwell

Blood, sweat and tears of toil were put into this month's issue of the Raptor, please consider this before you turn it into a paper aeroplane and/or rip it up.

THE REVENANT

'The Revenant' has stridden to critical acclaim and ripped itself into the box office, but what has 'The Revenant' done to capture the audience on DiCaprio's harsh, gritty and sophisticated journey? Flying past the success of 'Birdman' (2014), Director, Alejandro González Iñárritu has made an unforgettable cinematic masterpiece to rival the likes of Spielberg's 'Bridge of Spies' (2015), but even more satisfying, he has made a film to rival mainstream cinema.

Right from the first shot, the audience is plummeted directly into the middle of an 1823 Native American massacre - undoubtedly one of the most visually complex scenes- as Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio, who definitely deserves the Oscar to place on his floating door in the Atlantic ocean), escapes with a party of trappers, including Fitzgerald (Tom Hardy). The narrative develops into a bloody battle with the elements, as Glass gets his skin shredded by a bear and is then buried alive— left to survive and seek revenge upon the men who betrayed him.

In my opinion, the film succeeds on so many levels of terrain, it's annoyingly hard to find faults with it. Nonetheless, the 156 minute running time makes The Hobbit trilogy seem like a walk in the park. This could only be down to the constant flashbacks and pacing issues, taking you out of the plot and Glass's character arc.

González Iñárritu holds the frames together with his auteur direction to make an unforgettable panoramic experience for the audience, without the annoyance of cheap, plastic and brain digging 3D glasses decolourising his iconic tracking shots. This is the delicate quality of film making, in which the industry has been lacking in recent years, with their CGI diabolical mess of a franchise in which they call 'Transformers'. The most spectacular aspect of 'The Revenant', isn't the plot. Nor the performances (sorry Leo). It is however, the talent behind the camera: which González Iñárritu uses his breath-taking imagery to captivate the audience in this gruesome tale. But why has 'The Revenant' taken its revenge on Mainstream cinema?

This could be answered in a variety of ways, but the key feature to why this film critically succeeds on a level which could smash 'Avengers: Age of Ultron' is because it is an actual living, breathing piece of 'film', which uses natural light to capture the essence of what made the Western genre spectacularly realistic.

By Jacob Percival



Hi there reader! If you would like to submit ideas, suggestions and articles about anything you want to be heard about or voice your opinion on, email TheRaptor@harrowway.hants.sch.uk for more info.

CLIMBING CLUB

Why go to climbing club? Why wouldn't you? There is a number of reasons to not go to climbing club, such as you might have a fear of heights, your friends don't want to do it with you or you might think your body is the wrong shape or size. I'll tell you now that you are never too unfit, too short, or too wide. Your hands are not too small and your feet are not too big. Just take a look in any climbing wall and you'll see it's packed with climbers of every shape and size having a great time.

Climbing is so much more than brute force, it's about balance, movement and finesse. Sometimes it's the most unsuspecting shaped people that climb with relative ease. In fact, thinking about it, most of the world's greatest climbers are more different than you would imagine.

A healthy fear of heights is almost impossible to not to have – it is self-preservation! I think that if my heart-rate didn't increase at height, if my palms didn't become clammy, then I would quite frankly find it all quite boring. You don't need to climb high to enjoy climbing. There is a special type of climbing called bouldering which is low level climbing above padded mats without the need for ropes. This is a great way to enjoy the movement and feeling of climbing whilst keeping well inside the height of your comfort zone. You may just find, however, that without intending to you'll get a little higher up each time.

At climbing club you are always welcome to come along and join in with the fun! Giles, who is the climbing instructor and supervisor, will always make sure you are safe and secure and make sure your belayer (someone who applies tension to the rope so you don't fall) is paying attention.

By Jack Tugwell

COMING SOON TO THE RAPTOR THE SERRIDGE INTERVIEW

...where we ask Mr Serridge **your** questions and publish his answers in the next issue following an interview with us, the Raptor team!

To get involved, send your questions to **TheRaptor@harrowway.hants.sch.uk** by the deadline on Monday 21st March!