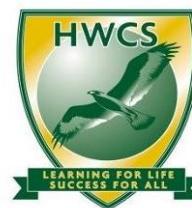


# THE RAPTOR



HARROW WAY'S NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS

VOLUME 3 - ISSUE 4

MAY 2016

## NEW HEADS AND DEPUTIES

We at the Raptor have exclusively interviewed the recently appointed Head Boy and Head Girl, Matt Cooper and Tia Fisher, to find out what they want to bring to the school during their reign. They will have the support of new Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl, Ethan Hawes and Tayla Dawe; however both were unfortunately too inundated with paparazzi to provide their comments.

### Matt Cooper

I believe the strengths we have are the strong communication students and the teachers share in class and the relationships they form after attending clubs and on trips. The weakness in the current system is the way previous student senior teams have run the prefect system in terms of monitoring it.

To improve the school I ensure the levels of prefect and toilet monitoring are suitable and improve how people attending college are to get back to school after attending their lessons at Andover College, as well as focusing on making the school brighter and even more organised than it is already.

I like playing guitar and just music on the whole, in addition to football, skateboarding and sometimes photography.

### Tia Fisher

I strived to become Head Girl because the role would be a great honour, privilege and an amazing opportunity for me.

I will be a determined, passionate, dedicated, resilient role model whilst remaining open-minded and listening to everyone's ideas to make the school the best it can be, supporting staff and students alike.

Furthermore, I want to make the school the best it has ever been with an efficient and effective prefect system that people believe they can trust and depend on.

Finally, I enjoy swimming, gym and reading.

*By Jack Tugwell*



## IMPORTANT DATES

Fri 27th May: District Athletics  
Sat 28th May— Sun 5th June: Half term holiday  
Weds 8th June: Yr 8 English exam  
Mon 13th June—Fri 17th Jun: Yr 8 Calshot trip  
Tues 14th June: Yr 7 English exam  
Tues 14th June: Yr 9 English exam  
Sat 18th June—Weds 22nd June: Yr 7 Plas Pencelli trip  
Weds 22nd June: Yr 10 English exam  
Thurs 23rd June: INSET day  
Mon 27th June: Yr 8 Kew Gardens trip

## HOUSE POINTS

**BUZZARDS - 1875**

**KESTRELS - 1870**

**HAWKS - 1410**

## THE ATTENDANCE CUP

**KESTRELS - 95.67%**

**BUZZARDS - 94.47%**

**HAWKS - 93.71%**

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# UNICEF EXPOSED

Whilst you've probably seen some of the school's Peer Educators wearing a blue circular badge and may have heard of the organization's contribution towards the protection of children and their rights, what you presumably don't know is how this children's emergency fund links to our school.

On the 25th of June 2010, Harrow Way Community School had the privilege to be awarded the Unicef Rights Respecting School level 1 accreditation. This symbolized our acknowledgement of the importance of every child's human rights which involve the basis of equality, respect, non-discrimination, dignity and participation. During this time, the role of Peer Educators was to visit tutor groups around the school to teach each students about our rights. Fast forward into 2012 and Harrow Way Community School on the 8th of October had already successfully managed to earn the highest possible award as a Level 2 Rights-Respecting School. An extraordinary achievement considering that we were one of only five schools in the country to have accomplished this!

As a part of upholding a Level 2 Rights-Respecting award, children, young people and adults must have an excellent understanding of a child's rights as well as "rights-respecting attitudes."

So far, within the past two years, our members have helped raise money for two schools in Ghana which included Ochoa, collected money within tutor time to send Christmas presents in shoeboxes along with cards of those who donated. We even took part in anti-bullying week activities such as discussions of how bullying affected our rights.

*By Kamile Simkute*

# WORLD BOOK DAY

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016, our school celebrated World Book Day. As well as holding a cake sale, we also had reading sessions in the library at break and lunchtime and quizzes throughout the school years. We, the *Raptor* team, were able interview Ms Herbert—the teacher in charge of World Book Day at Harrow Way.

When interviewed, Ms Herbert explained to us that her favourite thing about World Book Day was the books, as she finds reading magical and relaxing. She also revealed that she felt reading led to having amazing experiences that you just cannot experience in real life. We also asked her about what she thinks about reading things online, instead of reading an actual book, to which she responded he said that there is a something magical about reading books and reading it online spoils the experience.

She also told us that her favourite book is one she has had since childhood called *Quest* by Dorothy Oxley. Furthermore, she is also currently reading *Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights* by Salman Rushdie.

She had some book recommendations for the students as well. These include **How I Live Now, Noughts and Crosses, Jane Eyre, Harry Potter, His Dark Materials Trilogy, The Hobbit** and **Ms. Marvel**.

Remember, everyone's a reader, you just haven't found the right book yet!

*By Emma Mewes*

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

BECAUSE BOOKS  
ARE OUT OF THIS WORLD!

**Farewell readers! This is the last issue that Jacob and I will be editing to due to our upcoming exams. I leave *The Raptor* in the capable hands of our younger contributors. Thanks for everything and good luck in the future!**

Editor-in-Chief: Harry Smallbones

Deputy Editor: Jacob Percival

Contributors: Emma Mewes, Kamile Simkute, Alfie Smith, Jack Tugwell, Katie Scratchley

*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.*

# A CURIOUS REVIEW FOR A CURIOUS BOOK

If you see a book that has won the Whitbread Book awards (twice!), Commonwealth Writer's Prize, and Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, I strongly urge you to get it. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* happens to be such a book. Full of murder, trickery (you'll find out!) and incessant Sherlock Holmes quoting, this is one of the best books I've ever read. If you're a fan of Sherlock Holmes, you will certainly love this, with dry humour and twists and turns at every corner.

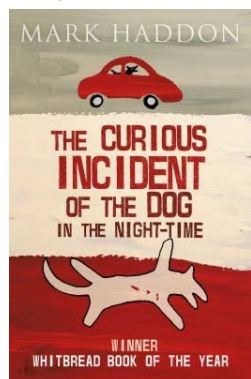
Meet Christopher Boone, a 15 year-old maths whiz-kid who happens to be the smartest student at his school. He attends a special needs school, but he's not there because of epilepsy or lack of basic skills, but because his behaviour can be a little – how shall I say this - sporadic. Mark Haddon, the author of the book, has discussed at length in the past the character of Christopher, and the fact that he developed him with Asperger's Syndrome. Not everyone who has Asperger's is like Christopher, but one aspect of his personality that is quite common in people diagnosed with it, is Christopher's understanding of the English language, and the way that everything he hears is taken literally. This is cause for some very funny moments. One example is when Mrs Shears, Christopher's neighbour, tells him she does not want to see him at that moment. He responds by simply putting his hand over her face and continuing to talk at her.

The book begins with a violent murder. Of a dog. Called Wellington. Wellington belongs to Mrs Shears, Christopher's neighbour. Christopher decides to investigate the murder. His search leads him to meet the people on his street, and to learn that not everything is as it seems.

Christopher lives alone with his dad, and he is going to be the first person to take an A-level (in maths, obviously) at his school. Also, Christopher has never been any further than to the end of his road, in Swindon, without his dad, despite wanting to be an astronaut when he is older. But events out of Christopher's control, triggered by the death of Wellington, lead him to leave the relative safety and routine of his home in the suburbs of Swindon and venture all the way to the big smoke of London. I won't spoil anything else, as the book is so good, that I found myself reading tens of pages a night!

I enjoyed the book quite a lot, not just because of the drama, but because of the unintentional jokes, and the overall feel of the book, which was, at various points, amusing, relaxing, tense and thrilling. I found myself laughing, and I found myself always wanting to turn over the next page. But at the end, I found myself wanting to read it all over again!

You can also see it come to life at the Gielgud Theatre in the West End of London. The plot is generally the same, and also it's funny like the original novel, with the audience being in on all the jokes that Christopher unintentionally makes. The producers of the play have certainly done well with sound effects and stage setup, as you feel the pounding of the speakers rush through you, and Christopher's love of maths really comes to life. Mark Haddon said he could never have imagined his book becoming a stage play, but even he has admitted that the actors and production team have done an amazing job. At the beginning he said they had no clue on how to get Christopher from Swindon to London, let alone to space, but they manage it. And they manage it with style. I like how they have kept the novel's legacy alive by keeping the plot the same and being true to the book.



In conclusion, I would definitely recommend this book to anyone looking for a funny murder-mystery novel, and I would give it a staggering 10/10, not just because of the humour, but because of the drama and the insightfulness on everyday life. So go on, be curious and turn the first page...

*By Alfie Smith*

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](mailto:TheRaptor@harrowway.hants.sch.uk) for more info.

# CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR

After the disappointing, depressing fan bait which was *Batman vs Superman*, directors Joe and Anthony Russo fix the superhero genre with their second outing featuring the patriotic Steve Rogers, this time making a superhero film that would not look out of place in the psychological/political thriller sub-genre. It's fair to say that *Captain America: Civil War* might just be the most intelligent and thought-provoking film in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, with action set-pieces which drive the narrative forward as well as an incredibly written screenplay, which creates the emotional conflict and high stakes of the War.

The plot is refreshingly simple: after all the collateral damage and deaths the Avengers have caused over the past 13 movies, the EU puts the Sokovia Accords into action, which basically states "hand yourself in to become government property or operate as vigilantes outside of the law". This choice creates the rising conflict of the characters, which places the audience in a compromising position as we are forced to choose the side we believe is morally just.

With an ensemble cast including the talents of Robert Downey Jr, Paul Rudd, Chadwick Boseman and the title character himself Chris Evans, the directors effortlessly balance all of the characters and their motives, all without creating a too convoluted a plot. However, the new teenage web-slinger Tom Holland steals the show, with Marvel doing justice to the character in a way Sony's not-so-Amazing-Spiderman franchise could not achieve in two films. Another stand out is Elizabeth Olsen and Paul Bettany as Scarlet Witch and the Vision respectively. Both stars develop their character's relationships which began in *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (2015) and turned what could have been flat, one-dimensional cos-players, into realistic people with realistic lives.

Many would ask, "Why should I watch another superhero movie when one comes out every week?" Well, clearly Kevin Fiege (President of Marvel) has listened, and consequently the film has as a major stand out scene—the adrenaline fuelled airport set-piece, which is the most well-choreographed action I have seen in a long time, as well as a few giant surprises along the way. *Captain America: Civil War* is a near perfect film. However, the ongoing problem of Marvel's dreary antagonists is as noticeable as Donald Trump's hair on steroids, as they both do not fit in with the ongoing narrative.

I have always said I do not like superhero films, I like good films; yet Marvel Studios have once again made a beautifully crafted, intelligently written and overall great film, which is a revitalizing take on the genre.

*By Jacob Percival*

