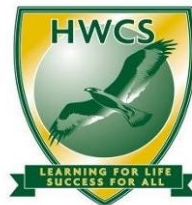


THE RAPTOR



HARROW WAY'S NEWSPAPER FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS

VOLUME 3 - ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 2015

ADVICE FOR NEW YEAR 7S

Where to go for help:

Your Tutor- You are with your Tutor for half an hour every morning though if you wish to speak in private arrange to come back at break, lunch or after school.

The Nurse- If you feel unwell go to the nurses office at Student reception.

The FLC- If you want a quiet place to catch up on homework or just need to talk to someone, there are plenty of people in the FLC that can help. It's located next to the sports hall.

Teachers- If you are stuck on some work, ask your teacher for some help! You could do this via e-mail or arrange to meet them after or before class.

Prefects- Certain students in the school help out as 'prefects'. They wear fully green ties and will help you in any way they can to the best of their abilities.

Other Students- If you need help, why not ask another student? They will most likely be able to help with any minor problems you may face.

Can't find your way around the school?

Can't find your way around the school? Don't worry your soon be able too! But here are some things to make getting from lesson to lesson that little bit easier!

The maths rooms all begin with L and the language rooms all begin with M!

The gym is room A6 near the auditorium and the Sports hall is in a different building next to the FLC.

The map in the front of your logbook can be very confusing so it might just be easier to ask an older student or teacher on

Things to be aware of:

Phones are not permitted throughout school hours but if you need to make a phone call, the phone at Student reception is available for use.

Extreme hairstyles, jewellery and makeup are not allowed at school- Make sure you consider this before arriving at school because chances are you'll have an angry teacher to deal with, if this rule is disobeyed!

When using the stairs, always walk on the left. Although it's tempting, don't charge through the middle of the stairs as other students find it really annoying!



Too much stuff?

Carrying round all of your school supplies everyday can be tiring- So try to pack only the stuff you need for that day!

If you don't have PE on Tuesday, there's no point in lugging your PE supplies around with you! Leave them at home and only bring the items required for the days lessons.

Lockers:

If you think that you're most likely to forget to check what to bring in and when why not invest in a locker?

To find out more information on how to purchase your locker contract, go to the Harrow way website or ask at student reception.

There are a range of clubs at lunch and after school. These include Netball club, Art club, Drama club, homework club, football club and many more!

The stamps you collect in your student diary can be traded in for prizes when you reach the required amount!

Harrow way has three house teams: Hawks, Kestrels and Buzzards.

ONE LAST TIP....



Make sure to check out the Raptor, the school newspaper, every week for more articles like this and more!

By Alanis Fell

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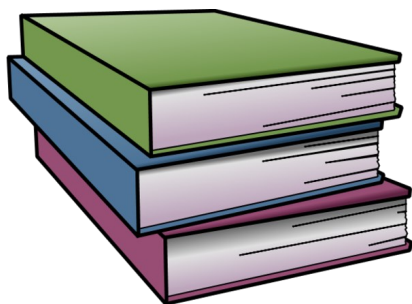
4 DOCTOR WHO, COMIC CON

COMING SOON TO A LIBRARY NEAR YOU!

Exciting news Harrow Way students! Our library has an exciting new look and even more new items to borrow!

They are now beginning to stock your favourite movies, and all completely free of charge, unless they become overdue... certainly an incentive to remember to get them back on time!

There are many genres including romance, comedy, action and animation. There will be something for everyone's taste! Titles spotted so far include 'What We Did on our Holiday', a hilarious comedy drama about a family on their holiday (unsurprising, given the title). Surrounded by relatives, the kids innocently reveal the ins and outs of their family life and many intimate details about their parents. It's soon clear that when it comes to keeping a big secret under wraps from the rest of the family, the children are their parents' biggest liability.



Another comedy is the classic Simpsons Movie, where family man Homer tries to save his family and the town of Springfield from a powerful government scheme. Let's hope Spider Pig/Harry Plopper doesn't distract him too much from the task at hand!

If comedy isn't your genre, then there is always the Spider-Man trilogy. Peter Parker forms an alliance with his high school sweetheart Mary Jane Watson, to fight such baddies as The Green Goblin, The Sandman and Doctor Octopus. Considering these movies grossed over \$2.5 billion worldwide, they probably should be on your must-see list.

Librarian and Deputy Head Boy Harry Smallbones has commented "I believe that the new DVD selection will help entice some people to come down to the library to loan a DVD and take advantage of its other facilities whilst there."

So, what else is new in the library this month?

In addition to the movies, there are many new book titles and new releases hitting the shelves. So check out 'The Scorch Trials' now you've seen the movie, or the latest Jacqueline Wilson, David Walliams or Jeff Kinney title!

Every break, there is also a new place to hang out, which is the Library Garden! This garden comes with picnic tables, and a freshly painted decking area! Of course you can eat out here, so never again will you let that precious Pasta King go cold during homework again!

Another new feature are the beanbags, where you can relax and do your homework in comfort and style. I'm afraid there is no eating on these, so you will need to leave that Pasta King outside in the garden.

There is also the new 'Connexions' board, which will certainly be a big help to all the people considering their career path and future options after leaving Harrow Way. They have advice on what you can do post-GCSEs, and their website and leaflets can guide you along the way. Check out the board for more information!



By Alfie Smith

Editor-in-Chief: Harry Smallbones

Contributors: Alanis Fell, Alfie Smith, Jacob Percival, Maddie Bowman

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.

FINNISH EDUCATION: MOVING ON UP

Well, up, and slightly east, to be exact.

It's quite clear to us, as the *slightly* unwilling students of British education, that the system isn't that great. Levels are constantly changing, and I just cannot wait until GCSE results day, where we will be running around attempting to translate a Grade 5,6 or 7 into an 'old school' A, B or C for our relatives. I can tell you, from experience, that not even the teachers fully understand what they mean. But over in Finland, just a short jaunt across the North and Baltic seas, things seem to make a lot more sense.

Finnish children start school at seven years-old, and at 15 take their first few exams: teachers—who, by the way, all have a Masters degree—believe that making children take lengthy exams while they are in elementary school and middle school (4-13 years old) doesn't prepare them for later in their school life—it more often than not produces bad experiences that unnerve children as they take the only exam that will actually mean the most. It is not even necessary to give children grades until age 13, for any work, but as Finnish schools and teachers decide on their own curriculum, it ranges.

It's actually not bad for teachers, either. If their teaching quality isn't up to scratch, they'll be taught what to do instead, i.e. not be fired. The aim is for the teachers to be trained for any outcome. A child is falling dangerously behind? They can spot this almost immediately, and coach the child individually in whatever way the kid prefers to learn. What if kids are going above, and are bored? It's all covered. They can't, however, be moved up or down, because organizing classes according to ability is illegal. It's the children's interest which is truly at heart.

Krista Kiuru, Finland's minister of education and science, believes that children need to be free to want to learn. If they hate the way they learn and the environment they're in, they won't do well; as Kiuru says, 'we can't afford to waste a brain'. That's why, no matter what race, ability, background or gender, each child is given the same education, because you can't tell out of a group of six year-olds which will grow up to be rocket scientists, and which will end up in a job that is perhaps less skilful, yet nonetheless important... (McDonalds, I'm looking at you).

Although many would argue that schools without an official government curriculum, homework (yep) or exams would produce an endless stream of completely uneducated adults, Finnish people who have experienced the new reform system



have a wider knowledge, and higher IQ than most in the world.

I, for one, am moving to Finland... coming?

By Maddie Bowman

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.

DOCTOR WHO: SERIES 9 PREVIEW

Doctor Who returns for its ninth series (or season 35, if you want to be precise) as Peter Capaldi steps inside the TARDIS for his second year playing the iconic Time Lord, alongside Jenna Coleman as companion Clara Oswald. At the time of writing this I have only seen the first two episodes (not all of us can invest in a TARDIS); therefore this will be more of a preview than an overall review.

Doctor Who opened its ninth season in a blockbuster-esque way with *The Magician's Apprentice*, something that would not look out of place playing in a movie theatre, with the war between the Kaleds and the Thals (referencing back to the 1975 story Genesis of the Daleks). But from here on, it takes an unconventional turn in the narrative structure of the show as fans are treated to a breathtaking reveal of a classic villain within the first five minutes, which sets up the main story plot threads for the two-part episode together with the character arc the Doctor goes on throughout the episodes. Hettie McDonald, director of the fan favourite *Blink*, makes a welcome return to the Whoniverse, this time exploring more visual ideas with her unique directing style, in addition to the always present Steven Moffat (head writer and executive producer since 2010), who penned the opening two episodes the best he could with the insulting lack of budget the BBC are giving him.

One of the biggest and most controversial mysteries last year was the reveal of the mysterious Missy, who turned out to be the Doctor's most menacing enemy, The Master, in female form—portrayed brilliantly by Michaela Gomez. Instead of being in the shadows of her own subplot, Gomez gets to explore more layers to her character than last year, making her psychotic portrayal of the Master and her deranged friendship with the Doctor even more endearing to view. Another fan favourite wheels its way onto our screens, as the Daleks make an impressive entry to the Who canon once again (well, only because the BBC would lose the rights to them if they didn't include them); however it is still electrifying to see different generations of Dalek designs—ranging from 1963 all up to 2015—all in awe-inspiring HD.



This is one of the most intelligently-written shows the BBC produces at the moment; however the innuendo-laden dialogue does get a bit repetitive and cheesy and therefore can be massively out of character for some of the most well respected characters of Doctor Who's rich fifty-year history. This, however, hardly takes you out of the immersive experience of watching a high-quality BBC drama, which does not look like its running out

of steam anytime soon.

THE CON IS ON

Comic Con 2015 kicked off with a start on Friday 17 July 2015 at London's Olympia, as 20 Harrow Way students, along with 80,000 other fans, found themselves in the largest film and TV convention in the UK. Many iconic figures of pop-culture attended the event, with standout guests including Sigourney Weaver (*Terminator*, *Alien*), Catherine Tate (*Doctor Who*) and Michael J Fox (*Back to the Future*) all in attendance to meet their fans. The performance art known as 'Cos-Play' played an integral part on the Comic Con floor as many fans showed their appreciation by dressing up as their favourite characters; however, if you dressed up as Jar Jar Binks, there was a possibility you would have been wrestled to the floor.

To celebrate its 30th anniversary, the 'Back to the Future' cast attended for autograph sessions and interview panels throughout the day, making it a nostalgic experience for ecstatic cinemagoers. Brad Cooke (11AVW) told me, "Comic-Con was a surreal experience. It's not very often you see Optimus Prime and Tony Stark eating lunch together."

The Con felt like you were intoxicated on every film ever released, which did make you suspicious that you had participated in a dodgy drugs trial, as you watched Captain America swagger onto a train carriage followed by seven Hobbits.

To book your tickets for London Film and Comic Con 2016 visit showmastersevents.com.

By Jacob Percival