

Miscellaneous

HARROW WAY'S NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS

Holiday Ideas



- Visit a theatre and watch a pantomime! Shows currently onstage for this year's festive season include Beauty and the Beast at The Anvil and Cinderella at the Mayflower Theatre.

- If you're a Potterhead, why not visit the Warner Brothers Studio Tour London for their Hogwarts in the Snow event?
- See the Christmas lights at Stourhead, Wiltshire and Kingston Lacy, Dorset
- Go on an Enchanted Gardens light trail in Swindon
- For something closer to home, you could make your own tree ornaments and decorations; there's plenty of video tutorials on the internet!
- Compile a Christmas playlist to get you in the festive mood
- Watch Christmas films whilst cosy in the blanket and have hot chocolate!
- Take a drive around the local area to see people's light displays
- And finally, make a countdown for how many sleeps there are until Christmas!



Charlotte Easton

Christmas Song Reviews!

All I want for Christmas is you - Mariah Carey
I love Christmas songs and have listened to this at least 10 times. I just love it!
5 stars

Step into Christmas - Elton John
It's quite a good song, upbeat and I would listen to it often.
4.5 stars

Santa Baby - Eartha Kitt
I really enjoy the tune as it is calming and emotive, one of my favourite Christmas songs
5 stars

Jingle Bell Rock - Bobby Helms
It is a great original song and it is quick-paced
4 Stars

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town - Jackson 5
It is an engaging, fast-paced song with great lyrics and melody.
4.7 stars

Alfie Nock



Short Stories- Part 3: A Surprise Encounter

It was late December; my favourite time of year. The air was crisp and clean. I was wrapped up in my favourite scarf, my favourite woolly hat on my head and doing my favourite thing. I had been walking down the park for as long as I could remember; it's almost like a tradition of mine.

I had been out for about half an hour. That's when I heard it. A soft whimpering sound coming from within the trees. It sounded like the thing making it was in pain. I walked around the sturdy oak trunk, pulling off my gloves and was very surprised to find a fawn. The poor creature had its hoof and leg caught in some twisting brambles. When it saw me, the baby deer panicked and tried to move away, crying out in pain. I slowly raised my hand to show I was not a threat and after a few minutes it calmed down enough for me to get close to it. Carefully I removed the brambles and thorns from its leg. I had some tissues in my pocket that were clean and used them to wrap the leg up. The fawn looked at me with its big brown eyes and I didn't see fear anymore. It almost looked as though it was thanking me. When it left I sat there for a couple of moments before going home with a big grin on my face. And the memory in my head. *By Kyra Braine*



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World News

Human Rights Day!

Human Rights Day takes place every year on **10th December** and marks the day when unarguable rights that everyone - regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, sex, language, political or other opinions, property, national or social origin or birth or other status - became entitled to. The theme for 2021 is **'Equality'** which relates to Article 1 of the United Nations Human Rights (UNHR) - **'All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.'**



This theme addresses the communities who are sometimes overlooked - including women and girls, indigenous peoples, people of African descent, LGBTQIA+ people, migrants, and people with disabilities. Over the last few years the discrimination towards these communities has finally got the public attention that they need in order for them to stop.

Unfortunately they still are subjected to prejudice. For example, even though there are many campaigns for equal rights among both men and women, the term 'feminist' has often become synonymous with 'man-hating' which makes the journey for achieving equality longer.

To conclude, this Human Rights Day, think of your peers, your counterparts, for the person that they are, and not who you perceive them to be due to your prejudices, stereotypes and assumptions. *Charlotte Easton*

T-Rex's Christmas Jumper!

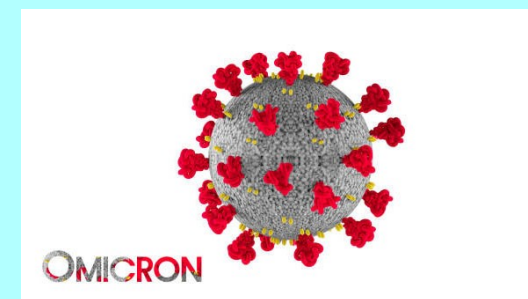
A specially designed Christmas jumper has added an adorable twist to the prehistoric era's most fearsome beast.



The Natural History Museum's animatronic Tyrannosaurus Rex lives in the exhibition in the blue area. Its ferocious roar and looming size are slightly toned down by the knitted garment! The man who made this, Mr Patel, said that it took over 100 hours to complete and it was the biggest job he had done in his 35-40 years of working in knitting. Although the jumper made for this dinosaur is 12 times heavier than regular jumpers, human-sized versions are available at the museum shop. *Edward Cripps*

Omicron Variant!

I am sure that you have heard about the new strand of Covid-19. It was first discovered in South Africa on the 24th of November but has since been found all over the globe - including England with almost 600,000 cases* (*our world in data). People were beginning to worry that this new variant might mean another lockdown. For a while, we were unable to test if the vaccine would work against it, or if a PCR/lateral flow could detect it. New information, though, does show that it is not as serious as those in the field once thought: it follows the usual illness trend; each strand is more transmittable but less serious. That's some good news for Christmas and the holidays! But keep wearing masks and taking lateral flow tests! *Bella Hall-Cooper*



School News

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Andover Food Bank

This year, instead of having a school fair, Harrow Way is making donations to Andover Food Bank. The Christmas Fair was once an annual event to raise money for our school and various charities, as well as having a blast! But due to Covid-19 and other circumstances, we can't do that this year; instead, we are having a dress down day and giving Christmas meals to those who need it.

You will already know some basic information about The Andover Food Bank from the assembly in November, but I believe their amazing work deserves more recognition. Through various locations in and around Andover, they fed 5600 in 2020 alone! one in five people live below the poverty line (below 60% of median income) and in times of need, the food bank is there to help people out and keep them healthy- there shouldn't have to be a fear of going without food, especially not at Christmas.

With over 70 volunteers and a few employed members, they not only provide food, the food bank gives support and helps members of the community address the problems they face beneath money troubles. If you want to discover more about this wonderful non-profit organisation, visit their website or donate at St John the Baptist Church. I hope you have a holiday as good as those you helped. *Bella Hall-Cooper*



Dmitrijs Meiksans returns to Youth Parliament

Dmitrijs Meiksans, the Head Boy of Harrow Way Community School, is returning to Youth Parliament as he has been re-elected to represent the constituency of North-West Hampshire. He is planning to represent the area until March of 2024.

Dmitrijs stated that he is ecstatic to continue the work which he would wish to achieve throughout the further years: "I am committed to continue upholding young people's voices to those in power, as well as ensuring that young people's mental health provision is at the top of their agenda, and enabling young people to become members of society ready to make a positive change to their local communities, backed by volunteering opportunities and work experience placements they were given in secondary school."

The young politician has been recognised and rewarded in the past. He was awarded with a Diana Award in honour of his numerous attempts to assist charities in the area and campaigning on specific subjects which the youth find important and in desperate need to be noticed. In addition to this, he was a finalist for the Pride of Andover Awards.



He also raised £375 through a 12-hour charity livestream and donated the money to a variety of charities. At our school, we have the opportunity to approach him ourselves and bring about the change that we want to see, as long as Dmitrijs readily hears our concerns.

We are very proud of Dmitrijs Meiksans' re-election and we are extremely excited to see what ambitions he will face for the following years. *Nathaniel Konieczynski*

Sport Sexism

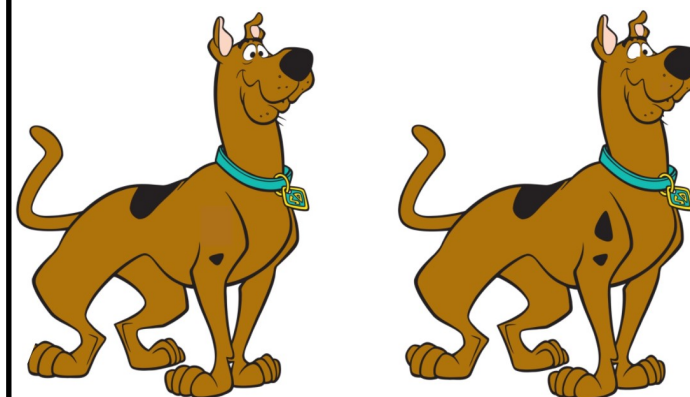
Sexism is a huge topic in modern age society. As you may know, or even have experienced, it is not a new problem. For thousands of years, the 'boy' and 'girl' genders have been separated and treated differently: at work, when voting (and in general politics), at home, at clubs and even during education!

Sexism leaves people out and makes people uncomfortable, trapped in what they can't do. Even in our school, girls do netball and the boys do rugby. However, boys cannot play netball and girls cannot play rugby unless it is part of an extracurricular club. Even then there is less opportunity so people find it difficult to put themselves out there. This means people would never find out if they are good at the sport or even find it enjoyable. We do the same six sports every year so it would be nice to have alternative ones so that a skill isn't confined to one gender. I think that everyone should get to experience whichever sport they'd like. *Georgia Marriner*



Games and Stuff

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Christmas Jokes!

What do Santa's Helpers learn at school?

What do you get if you cross Father Christmas and a duck?

Did you know it is getting harder to buy advent calendars?

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?

What would you call an elf who just won the lottery?

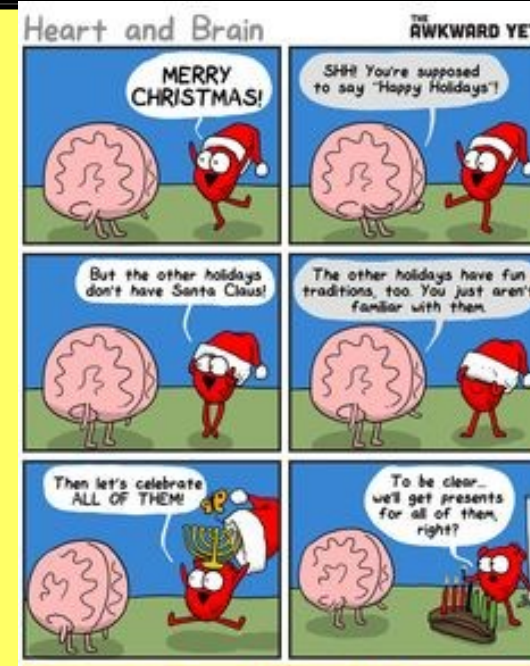
Put a finger down: Christmas Edition

Put a finger down if...

1. you opened a Christmas present early
2. you wanted Santa to come to your house when you were younger, even you were put on the naughty list
3. you love Christmas
4. you had the best present you ever wanted
5. you wanted money for Christmas over £100

Lewis Thompson and Bella Hall-Cooper

Answers!
The Elf-abet!
A Christmas Quacker!
Their days are numbered!
A mince spy!
Welfy!



Thank you for reading this edition of the Harrow Way Raptor! If you want to be involved in the next copy, email your article or turn up in E12 every Week A Monday at 3pm. I hope to see lots of you there!

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Thank you to everyone who participated in this article! , Edward Cripps, Charlotte Easton, Kyra Braine, Nathaniel Konieczynski, Georgia Marriner, Lewis Thompson, Mr Marsh and the rest of the team!