



Newlands Girls' School Library Newsletter  
Issue 5 (February 2021)

***A book is a dream you hold in your hands - Neil Gaiman***  
(Quote suggested by Emily (Yr 7))

**2021**

By Matilda (Year 7)

It's a brand-new year,  
And time to cheer.  
2020 is finally done,  
But the new year shouldn't be so glum.

Put the last year behind,  
And reset your mind.  
Hope for the best in everyone,  
But make sure you have lots of fun.

Try your hardest in everything,  
And soon will pass Winter, Autumn,  
Summer and Spring.  
For the new year has just begun.

Say hi to 2021!

*We welcome all Library newsletter contributions!*

*If you have a short story, poem, article, artwork or anything else, please don't hesitate to send it to Mrs Evetts or one of the editors. If you have any questions about the Library newsletter in general, please get in touch. We are happy to help.*

*Daisy, Sinéad, Niamh, Ivy, Jessica, Amelie and Immi*

*([LeaEvetts@Newlandsgirls.co.uk](mailto:LeaEvetts@Newlandsgirls.co.uk))*



Romilly (Yr 8)

## The Longest Winter

By Daisy (Yr 8)

The longest winter,  
Is not one whispering shiver,  
In the valleys and mountains pass.  
With its fine white veil,  
Bathing the trees and surrounding countryside.  
It is not the merry calling of carols and church bells,  
Throughout the towns and joyous villages,  
Singing its happy temptations,  
And bringing together the kinfolk in celebration.  
The longest winter,  
Is the one that comes to rest behind your eyes,  
Staining your lips with grey words,  
Stealing your soul of its joyous chants.  
We seem to have forgotten,  
In times of toll and desperate selfish want,  
That light can be found,  
It is the flower that blooms within your mind,  
And seed that is nestled within your arms,  
And our hearts- now withered - must once again find the sun.



By Juliana (Yr 8)



By Josephina (Yr 7)

### It's a Snow Day

By Josephina (Yr 7)

Snow is what I saw,  
And straight away I wanted there to be more.

I ran outside and had a snowball fight,  
Oh, what a lovely sight!

We went for a walk and built a snowman,  
But that was only the start of our plan.

Later in the day we built an igloo,  
Shining bright white because it was brand new.

Coming inside hands as cold as ice,  
Having a hot chocolate oh it was so nice.

It's a snow day!

### Anagrams

By Jess and Ivy (Yr 8)

mtaeHl

esTsfohetUbirel'lersD

uherngtiWeiHghst

MckotliklongiriBd

ExpereaGttationsc

omJletiuRonead

rGhetatetsGbay

becReac

EyeaneerJ

TOilwitsrev

uracDla

rankenFisten

heTHnamiasdTlae

tteliLnemoW

aitldMa

Anagram  
Answers  
Hamlet  
Tess of the  
D'Urbervilles  
Wuthering  
Heights  
To Kill a  
Mockingbird  
Great  
Expectations  
Romeo and  
Juliet  
The  
Great Gatsby  
Rebecca  
Jane Eyre  
Oliver Twist  
Dracula  
Frankenstein  
The Handmaids  
Tale  
Little Women  
Matilda



By Juliana (Yr 8)



# Great Newlands Short Story Writing Competition!

1<sup>st</sup> Prize- £20 Amazon voucher

Two runners Up- £5 Amazon  
voucher

## Calling all writers!

**Your task is to use one of the following starter sentences or guidelines to create your own amazing short story! It can be about anything. Make us laugh, surprise us, shock us or scare us! All stories must be no more than 800 words 😊 Good luck!**

### Possible Starter Sentences:

- "I awoke to my first sunrise on Mars..."**
- "I opened the door of the time machine and stepped out..."**

**Alternatively a theme of "solitude" or science fiction.**

### How to Enter:

Please email all entries to the Librarian –  
[leaevetts@newlandsgirls.co.uk](mailto:leaevetts@newlandsgirls.co.uk)

**Deadline- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

## Cyberbullying Awareness

By Amelie (Yr 8)

During lockdown, there's one thing we can all admit: we have all been using the internet A LOT! Let's be honest, what would we do without WiFi!? The internet is so useful in many different ways: we can communicate with people from around the world, talk to our friends and we even use it for our online classes! Despite the internet being so helpful, there are some more serious consequences beyond this online success; one of which includes cyberbullying.

Cyberbullying is the continuous action of hurting an individual virtually (online). This includes sending nasty comments to someone through the internet and sometimes even death threats. This can go on for a very long period of time and mentally impacts the victim (person being bullied/targeted) to think badly about themselves, losing confidence and sometimes can even lead to depression. Even though the person is not physically being hurt, Cyberbullying is just as hurtful and more dangerous, seeing as many people do not know the bully in real life. This means that they can completely change who they are virtually (e.g. lying about their age, looks, location, sending photos claiming to be of them). The majority of cyberbullying happens on social media. Social media is a platform where you can create and share content with others and exchange information. Some famous social media platforms include: TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, YouTube and WhatsApp. Though social media is very clever and enjoyable, we still need to be careful, especially as children, with who we trust and our personal information. Unfortunately, most of us probably know someone who has been bullied before, or who is currently being bullied. Don't worry! There are still many ways we can keep ourselves safe online. Here are some top tips to keep you, your friends and family safe online!

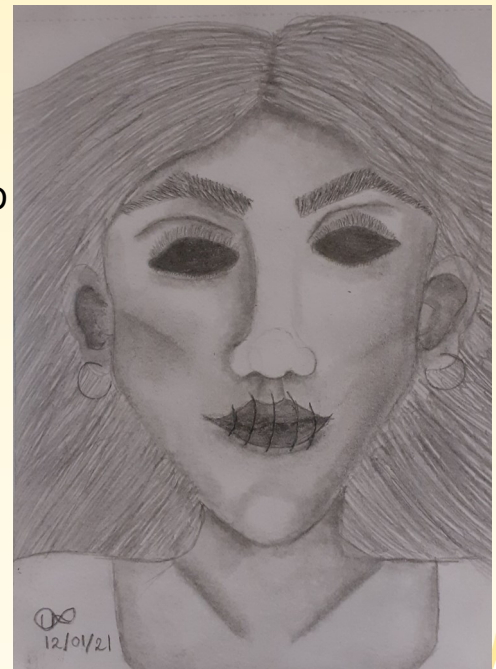
**ALWAYS ASK AN ADULT YOU TRUST BEFORE GETTING SOCIAL MEDIA!** Unfortunately, if the answer is no, than the answer is no. Our trusted adults know us best and we must respect that by listening to their opinions about social media. Social media is a big controversy (a big discussion or public disagreement) in society.

**BE SMART!** If you come across anything you are not sure about on social media, do not ignore it! Social media is more than gaining a fanbase and posting and liking pictures/videos. It is also about keeping you safe. **ALWAYS** talk to a trusted adult, to help you, never keep it in!

**BE SENSIBLE! DO NOT SHARE ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION.** This includes age, where you live, what school you go to, etc. You need to be very sensible in your words online because, one you post it, it is posted. **DO NOT POST ANYTHING THAT YOU THINK COULD OFFEND SOMEBODY.** **ALWAYS** get a trusted adult's permission before saying anything about yourself online. It is also important to keep the people around you safe too! **IF SOMEBODY YOU KNOW IS MISBEHAVING ONLINE, TELL SOMEBODY YOU TRUST.**

**HAVE FUN!** As long as you keep your personal information safe, be alert and tell an adult you trust if something happens that you are unsure about!

**IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS A VICTIM OF CYBERBULLYING, SPEAK TO A TRUSTED ADULT IMMEDIATELY!** Don't keep it in! Despite being at home, all of your teachers and friends are still here to support you! If you need to contact a teacher, you can contact [WellBeing@newlandsgirls.co.uk](mailto:WellBeing@newlandsgirls.co.uk) or your Head of Year!



By Isabelle (Yr9)

# Newlands News

*Match the clues to the book reviews on the next page!*

1

Some people like them to be plain,  
While some like them to have chocolate chips.  
But however you like them to be,  
They don't last long when they pass through  
your lips!

---

2

We associate this plant with love. But death  
can occur because of it! The plant is long and  
dangly and people normally put it up during  
Christmas.

---

3

A badly behaved crime!

---

4

I'm big and fluffy, and a little bit scruffy. I  
live in the woods and give big hugs. If I live  
on your bed, you might call me Ted!

---

5

Some people like to stay inside and watch  
TV, while others like to look for adventure. If  
you look for adventure beware of mysteries!

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We hope you enjoy reading these books. Please let us know if you have anything you would like to recommend!

From the Year 7 editors!

*Isabella, Gargi, Ruby, Rosie, Johara and Annabelle (Yr 7)*

Answers  
1-C  
2-B  
3-D  
4-E  
5-A

**A**  
**Five on a Treasure Island by Enid Blyton**  
By Isabella (Yr 7)

*Five on a Treasure Island* is a great book, filled with adventure and mysteries. It really opens your imagination and you can't take your eyes off the page!

By the way, there is a whole collection of Famous Five books! This is the first one in the series.

**B**  
**Mistletoe and Murder by Robin Stevens**  
By (Gargi Yr 7)

I really enjoyed this book and would recommend it to anyone who enjoys murder mysteries. It is very interesting and there is always a twist when the detectives think they know the whole story.

This is another book in the *Murder Most Unladylike* series. It is about two girls who solve mysteries. It is one of those books with such an interesting plot that you can't put it down.

**C**  
**Cookie by Jacqueline Wilson**  
By (Ruby Yr 7)

*Cookie* is a great book about Beauty Cookson and everything she goes through to try and have a good life. I think this is a great story for children of all ages and once you start reading it, it is hard to stop!

**D**  
**A Murder Most Unladylike by Robin Stevens**  
By (Johara Yr 7)

I really enjoyed reading this book because when you least expect it, the whole story twists around. It is one of those books that you can't stop reading and is filled with suspense.

This is the first book in the series. I would recommend it to people who like reading murder mysteries.

**E**  
**The Good Bear by Sarah Lean**  
By (Rosie Yr 7)

*The Good Bear* is all about friendship and love. There is a woman called Thea Wittington and she told her daughter about the time she encountered and befriended a bear.

I got the book for Christmas and I love it so much; it gives you a cheerful feeling.

I really recommend *The Good Bear* for those who like books about friendship. Even better – a friendship between girl and bear!

# Classics Word Search

By Ivy and Jess (Yr 8)

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

LORD OF THE RINGS  
DRACULA  
MADAME BOVARY  
HARRY POTTER  
LITTLE WOMEN  
VANITY FAIR  
HUNGER GAMES  
THE HOBBIT  
MOBY DICK



By Connie (Yr 9)



## War Letter

By Anahita (Yr 9)

*Dear Mum,*

*I have been on the frontlines for a month now, but it feels like years! My day is spent shooting people, seeing my friends being shot at and mustard gas being released on us! Mother, the food is very scarce here, we barely have any energy to fight. I sometimes wonder, what I got myself into? The posters said that war is a captivating experience, but I find it sad, depressing, and sorrowful. There are dead bodies all over, with no one to bury them.*

*Sometimes when we end up stepping on the dead and I feel so disgusted and I get shivers all over my body. May God have mercy on all of us! I so wish that the war ends. Many of our men get trench foot. Trench foot occurs when your foot starts to rot because you have been in knee-deep water and mud. My good friend John Hamburg just got a severe case of trench foot. I'm disappointed to say that his foot now may require amputation! Doctors find it very inconvenient to take care of so many patients, and sometimes they end up making hard decisions like amputating someone's foot or arm even though they know that the soldier has so much room for improvement.*

*Harry Fortress, a very brave and strong soldier, uses no weapons and yet he retrieves the injured from the battlefield to the tents! He saved around 48 men today. I wish I were as brave and courageous as him. I miss you a lot mother, and desperately wish to be at home with you and Maya.*

*How is Surrey? I do hope that the horses are minding their manners with me being gone! I hope I am not upsetting you with all this. I'm sure, you are even more worried about me now. But I promise to do whatever I can to stay alive. Even if I don't come back... you know that I will always be there when you look up in the stars! I'll ensure you would be proud of me, and I thank you for letting me serve my country! Pray for me and that I come home soon. I'll write again.*

*All my love,*

*Francis xxx*

## Photography Competition Winner!



By Georgie (Yr 7)

## War Letter

By Claire (Yr 9)

Dear Mother,

I hope you are doing well because I, on the other hand, am not so sure. Back at home everyone always talked a great deal about the adventures and excitements of war. It turns out that was all a big lie. I can't begin to explain the horrors running through my mind right now. You remember the boy that used to live just down the road from us? Well, I hate to say that he was killed this morning. I can still remember the image of his body go from healthy and strong to pale and weak in just a matter of seconds. I know you probably don't want to hear about the fact that your son is experiencing this, but I'm telling you now, that if I don't return home don't mourn me. You must remember that I chose my country over everything. I know I may be sounding a bit morbid but this is only the first week and it will only get worse from here.

Love always from your son Michael.

## Caption Competition Winners!

Who says unicorns can't  
ride horses?  
(Matilda Yr 7)



Many thanks to Lands End Equestrian Centre for this photo – a popular local riding stable.  
[www.landsendequestriancentre.com](http://www.landsendequestriancentre.com)



When you spot your  
favourite book in the  
Library.  
(Josephina Yr 7)

Teal is flying high in a game  
of fetch.  
(Matilda Yr 7)

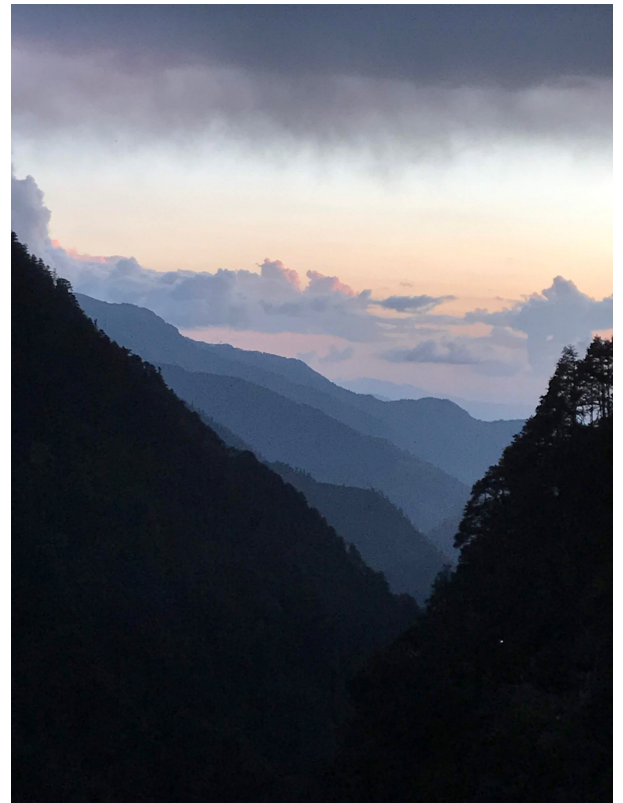


Miss Capon's dog – Teal

## Joint second in the Photography Competition!




By Helen (Yr 10)



By Vak (Yr 7)

## I DON'T WANT YOU



The army is hiding all the horrible acts they are doing from the public. The army is not a fun place to be in as they do not care about you. They scribble out all the horrific issues from soldiers' letters to seem like they are all fine and well.

Want to be exhausted whilst walking in damp wet mud? JOIN THE ARMY!

Want to sleep in cramped, wet trenches? JOIN THE ARMY!

Want to get blisters on your feet whilst being worn out? JOIN THE ARMY!

Want to get shot by your own people for being too cowardly? JOIN THE ARMY!


In the poem of Dulce et Decorum Est they use phrase "ugly witches" because of the wet atmosphere the soldiers must live through that made their skin peel and wrinkle this made them look like completely different people.

If you saw the conditions, they must live in you would not dare to even say the word army again! So why send you sons or husbands to this hell hole? You probably will not see him again.



for the U.S. ARMY

By Nichole (Yr 9)

## THERE'S NO ROOM FOR YOU



All went lame and blind not fame and kind  
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning, not wondering, roaming, bouncing,  
  
with joy,  
  
don't be sick of sin, nor have froth-corrupted lungs,  
  
save your life, and be with your wife.


Make sure that is you
Don't let this be you

By Izzy (Yr 9)


# WHY?

The only person you will really be killing is yourself!

Men Marched Asleep




DEATH SENTENCE



SUICIDE

His Hanging Face, Like devil's sick of sin



Nothing good ever came from war or fighting!

By Lola (Yr 9)



By Josephina (Yr 7)

## Death and Die

By Sophie and Isabelle (Yr 9)

The innocence of the night can be shattered so fast,  
When haunting thoughts resurface once more.  
When your eyes close and you dream of the past.  
When you remember the pain, the blood, the gore.  
You hear your boots crunch as you limp on the soil.  
You feel your blood thicken as you fall yelling to no-one.  
You feel your pain blind you as you turn your back on the turmoil.  
You led your boys to this war now all slain by a gun.  
Now flailing over and over as you feel the current pull you down.  
There are walls all around you; blue and green all you see.  
You feel your breath being stolen as you start to drown.  
Your final look is taken - there is nothing but sea.  
Suddenly helpless and weak as you feel yourself choking.  
Everything is lost, gone up in a flare.  
You feel the fire all around you as the flames continue smoking.  
Your body giving in as you feel your resistance tear.  
Without warning you're writhing - your body in a blanket of sores,  
Or skin sheet white as the cancer takes control.  
You bend over coughing and decide you can't take the pain anymore.  
You are old now and soon will be dead in a hole.  
These dreams are nightmares,  
But they are not what scare you.  
Because as you lie asleep facing the scares,  
You know they all could become true.



By Nadine (Yr 7)

## Battle At Dawn

By Libah (Yr 9)

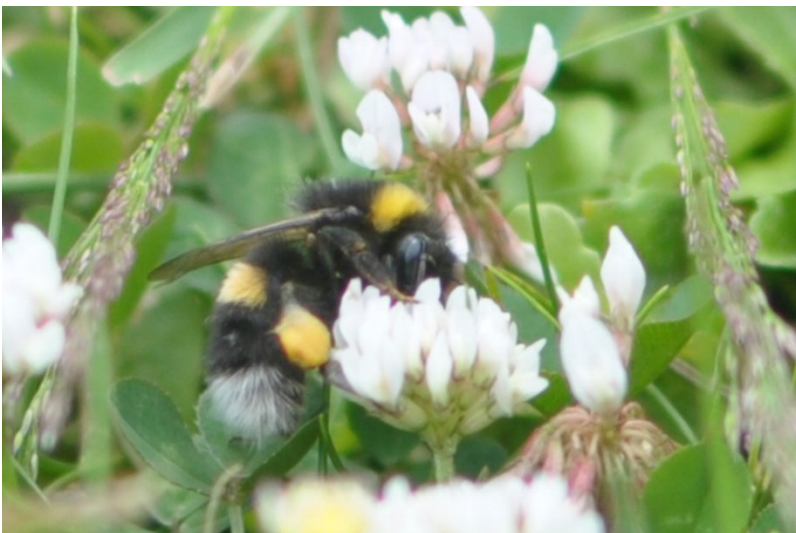
Everyone will mourn.  
They are cold, afraid, and starving.  
There must be more.  
To the millions who are marching,  
Then a separation between their families.

Muddy ground they walk on,  
The poppies blow.  
Waiting for a glow,  
To their people's faces.

Bombs in the air,  
Planes whizzing through the air.  
People dying of fear.  
Just peace being alone.

# Eco-quiz

1. What is the name for something which is eco-friendly and good for the environment?
2. Which uses less water?
  - a) Washing dishes by hand
  - b) Using a dishwasher
3. Who eats greenflies in your garden?
  - a) Bees
  - b) Ladybirds
  - c) Slugs
4. Which type of supermarket bag is most eco-friendly.
  - a) Plastic
  - b) Paper
  - c) Neither
5. How many trees will you save by recycling 1 ton of cardboard?
  - a) 17
  - b) 3
  - c) 40

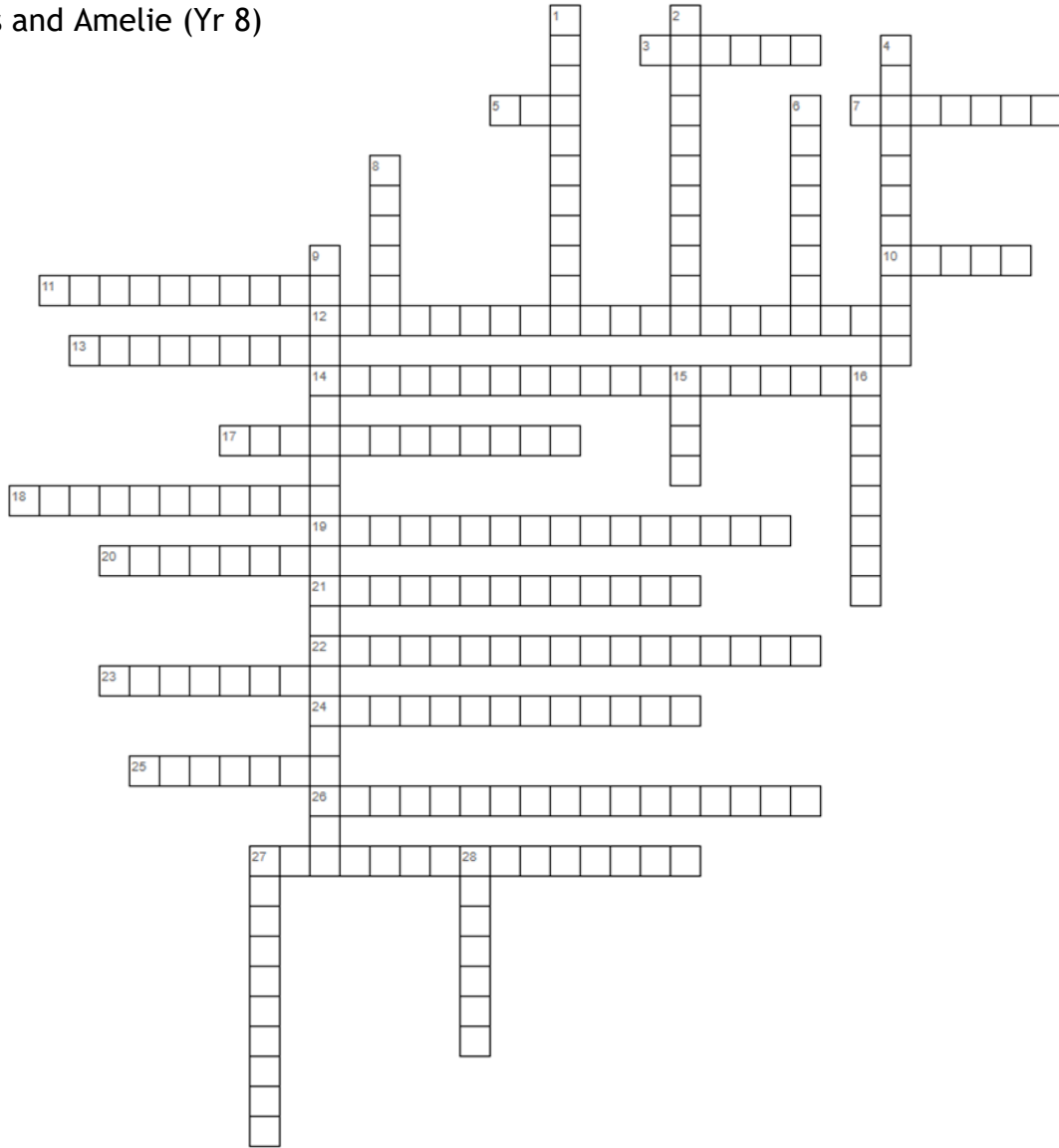


By Rosie (Yr 7)

- Answers**
1. Sustainable
  2. Using a dishwasher
  3. Ladybirds
  4. Reusable bags should be taken to the supermarket.
  5. 17 trees

# Book Crossword

By Ivy, Jess and Amelie (Yr 8)



## Across

- 3 What kind of creature is Bilbo Baggins?
- 5 A giant with big ears.
- 7 A transylvannian vampire count.
- 10 A married couple who play mean tricks.
- 11 She wore a glass slipper.
- 12 In which detective series do you find Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong?
- 13 Someone gave her a poisoned apple.
- 14 A book series about a skeleton detective and his magical apprentice
- 17 A monster made by a mad scientist.
- 18 A book about an orphaned boy, written by Charles Dickens.
- 19 In which series do you find Lyra and Pantalaimon.
- 20 A horse that goes to fight.
- 21 A robbing grandmother.
- 22 She fell through a rabbit hole.
- 23 Where do you find Captain Hook and the Lost Boys?
- 24 Mildred Hubble is in this book.
- 25 What is the name of the boy who visited Willy Wonka's Factory?
- 26 An orphaned girl. They were expecting a boy.
- 27 Ebenezer Scrooge is the main character.

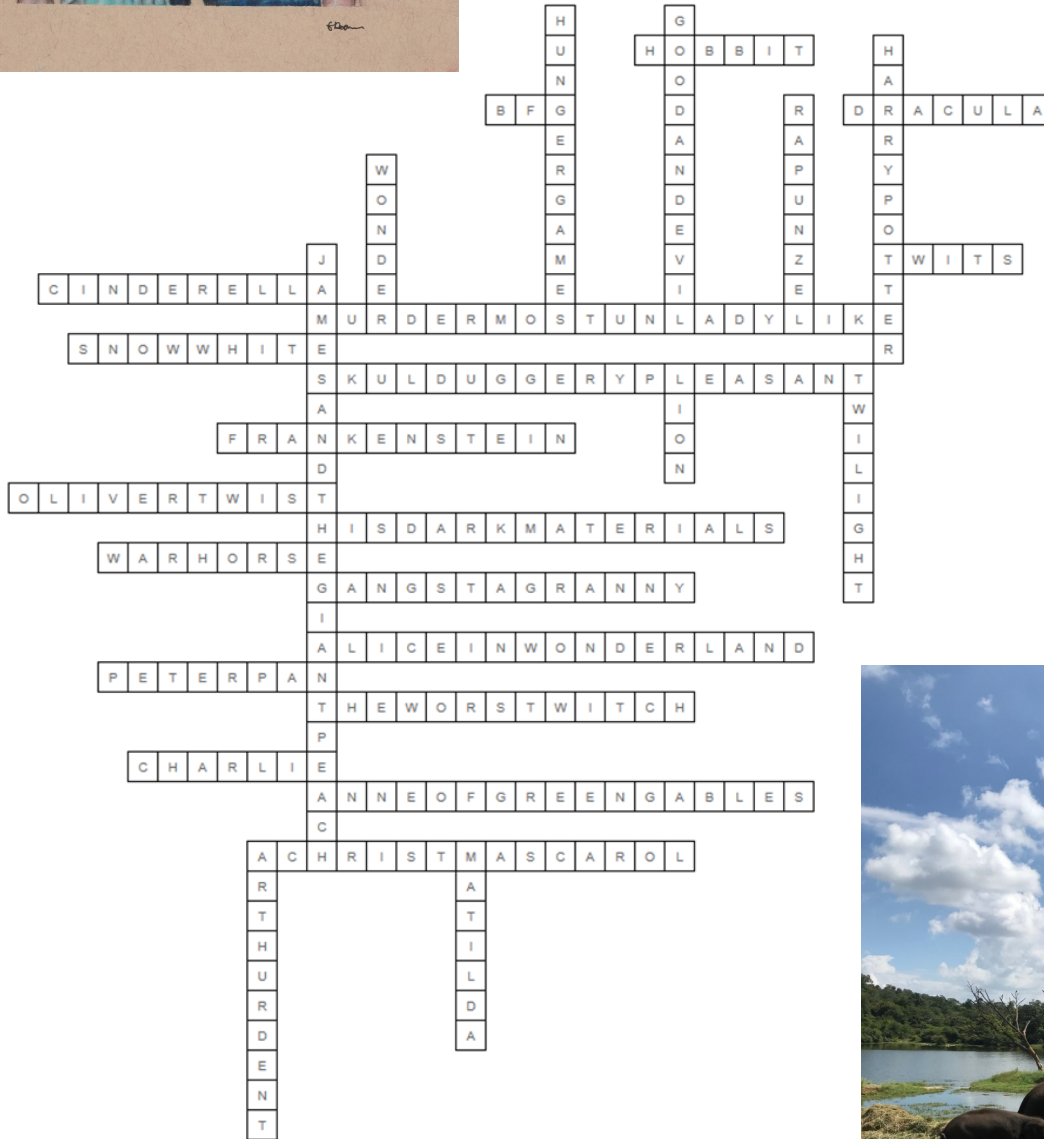
## Down

- 1 Where do you find star-crossed lovers from District 12.
- 2 Sophie and Agatha go to this school in their mixed up fairy tale. The School for \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_.
- 4 The boy who lived.
- 6 Who has long golden hair?
- 8 A book about a boy named Auggie who dreamed of becoming an astronaut.
- 9 A giant piece of fruit and giant insects.
- 15 A royal animal that you find by going through a magical wardrobe.
- 16 A vampire romance.
- 27 He wears a dressing gown in A Hitchiker's Guide to the Galaxy.
- 28 A book loving girl who wants revenge on her parents.



By Emily (Yr 9)

## Book Crossword Answers



By Gargi (Yr 7)



## The Yeti

By Isabelle (Yr 9)

I could hear the wind whipping and screaming all around our tent as I just lay there in the dark. I could not tell what the time was as we had been up on the mountain for so long. Searching for the yeti hour after hour and pushing ourselves beyond our physical and mental limits, I had forced one foot in front of the other time after time again, pushing against the storms that tried and tried to bury us deep in the mountain.



By Jess (Yr 8)

My body had been so tired, but now, as I lay here, I could not sleep. I was surrounded by unknown terrors and so many sounds filled my head that I was unsure what was real and what was in my head. I felt a tremor run down my spine from the cold, but even that ached as I lay there. I had no hope left, no determination to draw on. So, as I lay in my tent listening to the world around me, I drifted into a dreamless sleep.

I woke with a start as I heard a crunch outside. It was still dark, and my body was sore all over but none of that mattered as I heard the sound again— the crunch of a foot in the snow. Only much, much louder. I could hear the sound moving all around my tent as I lay there. Not daring to move. Not daring to breathe. Not daring to even blink. My breath seemed to stick in my lungs as I lay there, frozen in terror. My mouth was open, but I could not scream. I could not breathe. I was paralysed. The fear was overwhelming, and it controlled my whole body, making me rigid, but I could feel something else creeping in, tendrils of curiosity began to grow. I took a deep breath. As I continued to lie there, the desperation to know more grew. It was in my blood to explore and the fear I felt took a back seat as determination overtook it. The creature that was making the noise was right outside, but I did not care. I just had to see it.

My mouth formed a grim line of determination and sweat gathered at my temples as I sat up in my tent and carefully made my way towards the door. Making sure not to make a noise as I moved. I finally reached the door and carefully started to open it. The buzz of the zip broke the silence, and I felt my breath catch in my throat. I suddenly felt foolish for even thinking I could make it out of this situation alive. Bile rose up in my throat as the thoughts consumed me. Yet I somehow pushed down the thoughts and continued to slowly open the zip, flinching at the tiniest noises. Eventually there was a hole big enough for me to fit through and I crawled through the hole and felt the bite of the cold air. I looked up and froze. Facing me on the other side of the mountain ledge was my crew. Shuddering. Huddled against the mountain wall. Wide eyed. And staring right at me.

I felt embarrassed. The snow froze my feet, but I could not feel it as all I could focus on was the group of people I had led to their deaths. They looked to me for an answer, but I just stood there my body shaking in the cold, feeling more hopeless than I ever had before. I slowly took more steps from the tent. Never meeting the eyes of the group. I could not face the disappointment. The betrayal. I had some sense of the cold but all I could focus on was this group of huddling students. They were young, most had families and their whole lives ahead of them.

A crash shook me from my thoughts and my head snapped towards the sound. My tent was a heap on the floor, and I heard loud crunches leading away from the mess, but my eyes were stuck on what was nearly my death. I was sure I was going to throw up. But a flash and click of a camera made me freeze. One of the students in the group had been foolish. They had snapped a photo of the creature and I could hear the screams as they all paid the price. My entire body was shaking as I stood there, my hands were slick with sweat and my mouth open in a silent scream. Something flew towards me and I was horrified by the sight of a polaroid camera.

I felt the tears streaming down my face. I had not even noticed that I was crying. The camera. The picture would have printed. Without thinking I ran towards where my students had been huddling and ignored the overwhelming smell of metal. I snatched up the processing photo and kept running. I did not check to see if I was being followed. I just ran. Sprinting as fast as I could as I continued to try and escape the smell. The memories. The truth. I looked at the photo in my hand. It had the bloody handprint of the fool who sacrificed the groups' lives. I nearly tripped in horror. I was still crying, and the snow slammed into my face. The photo finished processing and I collapsed to the floor and let out a scream that ripped through my whole body as I saw what we had just faced. In the photo was a beast of legend.

The yeti.

## Harry Potter Book Review

By Sinéad (Yr 8)

I'm pretty sure that everyone reading this will know what *Harry Potter* is at this point. It's a hugely best-selling series which has been adapted into an equally huge film series and has been translated into over 80 different languages. So what makes it so popular and does Harry Potter really deserve all the credit it gets?

In order to get a better understanding of why people love these books so much I asked a few of my friends to tell me what they liked about them and all the answers were essentially the same: the world. *Harry Potter* has this sense of magic to it and you can't help wishing that you could be whisked away to Hogwarts to experience the amazing world which the books are set in. The themes in *Harry Potter* are death, loss, greed and friendship; things which most teens can relate to in some way. Yet these emotions we have all felt are re-contextualised and given a new power when put into the setting of the wizarding world where even the most mundane things seem magical. One of my favourite things about this world is how fascinated wizards are with muggle (non-magical) creations. Wizards are over-awed by cars, phones and even microwaves in a way that perfectly mirrors how the reader feels about wizard creations, showing that maybe in an odd sort of way, the ordinary world is magic.

However, there are some problems in *Harry Potter*. There are a few plot holes, characters occasionally seem to have odd biases which don't appear to fit with their motives and the book is told nearly entirely through Harry's eyes, meaning we don't often get to see what the other characters think. This being said, overall the books are brilliant and definitely worth reading and I think their popularity is due to their amazing plot, complex characters, relatable themes and most importantly: an amazing world.



By Charlotte (Yr 10)

## Harry Potter Film Review

By Niamh (Yr 8)

The *Harry Potter* films were just as successful as the books, if not more so (I say this because there are a lot of people who have seen the films but haven't read the books). It can be very hard to do a film adaptation of any book, let alone an entire series of a long and beloved franchise. However, these films were obviously very successful, so why did they work?

Each film definitely had various problems, whether it be weird characterisation, bad acting or choosing to cut various parts of the books for no discernible reason. Despite this, I would say that each film, (mostly) managed to represent the books very well whilst effectively trimming down the longer books into more normal length films. From looking at various behind the scenes clips it is clear that a lot of love went into creating these films, especially the set pieces and special effects that were involved in bringing the wizarding world to life. This definitely showed, as their depiction of Hogwarts, the ministry, the burrow and the wizarding world in general was, in my opinion, very good. Quidditch was also handled very well and as the films progressed the acting got a lot better, resulting in some truly amazing performances.

For me, when re-watching these films I only have one main issue. That issue is the characterisation of Ron. It is important to note that when the first film came out only four books in the series had been published, meaning the people making the films didn't know how it was going to end. This isn't a problem until you realise that in making the film the writers would have to cut out and change certain things meaning that the writers could very easily brush over or change a seemingly meaningless aspect of the book which would actually be important later on.

This resulted in a few mistakes, but the main and most obvious one is the mis-characterisation of Ron. In the first few films, Ron is clearly the worst of the three main characters. He's the wimpiest, the most annoying and is really just there for comic relief most of the time. On top of that, he just doesn't have as many lines and isn't given as much attention as Harry and Hermione. The filmmakers chose to focus on Harry and Hermione's relationship and character development and neglected Ron. This meant that when Ron suddenly became much more important in the final book, and got together with Hermione, it almost felt out of the blue, which it definitely didn't in the books.

In summary, I think the films for the most part do an excellent job of staying faithful to the books as much as possible and they were clearly made with a lot of love, but certain choices and circumstances led to there being a few instances of mistakes and mis-characterisations that are easily spotted if you look for them.



Niamh (Yr 9)